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US Doc 2,771

INVESTIGATION OF COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES,  
NEW YORK AREA—PART III

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HEARINGS

BEFORE THE

COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-FOURTH CONGRESS

FIRST SESSION

---

MAY 3 AND 4, 1955

---

Printed for the use of the Committee on Un-American Activities

(Index in Part IV of these hearings)



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WASHINGTON : 1955

**COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES**

**UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**FRANCIS E. WALTER, Pennsylvania, *Chairman***

<b>HAROLD H. VELDE, Illinois</b>	<b>MORGAN M. MOULDER, Missouri</b>
<b>BERNARD W. KEARNEY, New York</b>	<b>CLYDE DOYLE, California</b>
<b>DONALD L. JACKSON, California</b>	<b>JAMES B. FRAZIER, JR., Tennessee</b>
<b>GORDON H. SCHERER, Ohio</b>	<b>EDWIN E. WILLIS, Louisiana</b>

**THOMAS W. BEALE, Sr., *Chief Clerk***

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## PUBLIC LAW 601, 79TH CONGRESS

The legislation under which the House Committee on Un-American Activities operates is Public Law 601, 79th Congress [1946], chapter 753, 2d session, which provides:

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, \* \* \**

### PART 2—RULES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

#### RULE X

##### SEC. 121. STANDING COMMITTEES

\* \* \* \* \* 17. Committee on Un-American Activities, to consist of nine members.

#### RULE XI

##### POWERS AND DUTIES OF COMMITTEE

\* \* \* \* \* (q) (1) Committee on Un-American Activities.

(A) Un-American activities.

(2) The Committee on Un-American Activities, as a whole or by subcommittee, is authorized to make from time to time investigations of (i) the extent character, and objects of un-American propaganda activities in the United States, (ii) if the diffusion within the United States of subversive and un-American propaganda that is instigated from foreign countries or of a domestic origin and attacks the principle of the form of government as guaranteed by our Constitution, and (iii) all other questions in relation thereto that would aid Congress in any necessary remedial legislation.

The Committee on Un-American Activities shall report to the House (or to the Clerk of the House if the House is not in session) the results of any such investigation, together with such recommendations as it deems advisable.

For the purpose of any such investigation, the Committee on Un-American Activities, or any subcommittee thereof, is authorized to sit and act at such times and places within the United States, whether or not the House is sitting, has recessed, or has adjourned, to hold such hearings, to require the attendance of such witnesses and the production of such books, papers, and documents, and to take such testimony, as it deems necessary. Subpenas may be issued under the signature of the chairman of the committee or any subcommittee, or by any member designated by any such chairman, and may be served by any person designated by any such chairman or member.

RULES ADOPTED BY THE 84TH CONGRESS

House Resolution 5, January 5, 1955

\* \* \* \* \*

**RULE X**

**STANDING COMMITTEES**

1. There shall be elected by the House, at the commencement of each Congress, the following standing committees:

\* \* \* \* \*

(q) Committee on Un-American Activities, to consist of nine members.

\* \* \* \* \*

**RULE XI**

**POWERS AND DUTIES OF COMMITTEES**

\* \* \* \* \*

17. Committee on Un-American Activities.  
(a) Un-American Activities.

(b) The Committee on Un-American Activities as a whole or by subcommittee, is authorized to make from time to time, investigations of (i) the extent, character, and objects of un-American propaganda activities in the United States, (ii) the diffusion within the United States of subversive and un-American propaganda that is instigated from foreign countries or of a domestic origin and attacks the principle of the form of government as guaranteed by our Constitution, and (iii) all other questions in relation thereto that would aid Congress in any necessary remedial legislation.

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# INVESTIGATION OF COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES, NEW YORK AREA—PART III

TUESDAY, MAY 3, 1955

UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE  
COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES,  
*Washington, D. C.*

## PUBLIC HEARING

A subcommittee of the Committee on Un-American Activities met, pursuant to notice, at 10:30 a. m. in the caucus room, Old House Office Building, Hon. Edwin E. Willis, presiding.

Committee members present: Representatives Edwin E. Willis (presiding), and Gordon H. Scherer.

Staff members present: Frank S. Tavenner, counsel, and George C. Williams, investigator.

Mr. WILLIS. The subcommittee will come to order.

Let the record show that Hon. Francis E. Walter, chairman of the Committee on Un-American Activities of the House of Representatives, pursuant to the provisions of law establishing the committee, has duly appointed a subcommittee, consisting of Mr. Morgan M. Moulder, of Missouri as chairman, Mr. Gordon H. Scherer, of Ohio, together with myself, Edwin E. Willis of Louisiana, for the purposes of this hearing.

Mr. Moulder is temporarily delayed but will soon be presiding.

Under the rules of the committee, two being present, a quorum is established.

The committee will hear today Mrs. Mildred Blauvelt, detective of the New York City Police Department, who was an undercover operative for the New York Police Department from April 1943 until November 1951, during which time she was assigned to several different Communist Party groups within the New York area.

The purpose of the hearing is to ascertain what knowledge she has of the extent, character, and observation of Communist Party activities within the areas to which she was assigned.

Are you ready to proceed, Mr. Tavenner?

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes, sir.

Are you Mrs. Mildred Blauvelt?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. I am, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you rise and be sworn, please.

Mr. WILLIS. Do you solemnly swear the evidence you are about to give before the committee will be the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. I do.

**TESTIMONY OF MRS. MILDRED BLAUVELT**

Mr. TAVENNER. Where were you born?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. In New York City.

Mr. TAVENNER. It is noted that you are not accompanied by counsel.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. That is correct.

Mr. TAVENNER. It is the practice of the committee to advise a witness that they are entitled to counsel and may consult counsel at any time they desire.

What is your occupation, Mrs. Blauvelt?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. I am a detective with the New York City Police Department.

Mr. TAVENNER. How long have you been engaged as a detective with the Police Department of the city of New York?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. I was appointed to the New York City Police Department December 7, 1942.

Mr. TAVENNER. Are you still so employed?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes, I am.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you tell the committee, please, what your formal educational training was prior to acceptance of your position with the police department?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. I was a graduate of one of the New York City high schools and I attended Pace Institute, now called Pace College.

Mr. TAVENNER. Have you held any positions of employment other than that of detective for the Police Department of the City of New York?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Prior to my appointment to the New York City Police Department I was employed by several companies in the capacity of stenographer or secretary.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you tell the committee, please, the general nature of your preparation for the assignment about which I am going to ask you; the special assignment within the Communist Party?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. When I was appointed to the New York City Police Department I first had to attend the police academy for training for a period of 2 or 3 months.

Following that period of training, I was then assigned by the New York City Police Department to become an undercover operative in the Communist Party. I did gain entry into the party in April of 1943 and I remained in the Communist Party until November of 1951, when I was expelled. That period in between of course covers approximately 9 years.

Mr. TAVENNER. Over this period of approximately 9 years were you required to serve in different clubs of the Communist Party or was this entire period of time spent in one group or club of the Communist Party?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. No, when I first gained entrance into the Communist Party in April 1943, I was in the 9th A. D. Club in the upper West Side of Manhattan, and I was in that club about 5 or 6 months. I was expelled from it formally in September 1943.

Mr. TAVENNER. I will ask you about the circumstances of that expulsion a little later.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Then I was under orders from the New York City Police Department to regain entry into the Communist Party. Therefore, I attempted to do so and in April of 1944 I joined the Flatbush Club in the Flatbush section of the Brooklyn Communist Party. And when the Flatbush Club underwent a reorganization in January of 1946 I was placed in a club called the Parkside Club, also in the Flatbush section, and when that club underwent a reorganization—

Mr. WILLIS. Were you placed in the third club by the police department?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. I was in the Communist Party at that time and this was just a matter of routine on the part of the Communist Party to place me in these clubs. It was a matter of transfer.

Mr. WILLIS. Did the Communist Party place you in the third club?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. That is correct.

The Parkside Club underwent reorganization in June 1946 and I was placed in the Lincoln Road Club and then from the Lincoln Road Club I was transferred in June of 1947 to the Jay-Smith Club in the Boro Hall section of the Brooklyn Communist Party, and remained in that particular club until my formal expulsion from the Communist Party in November 1951.

Mr. TAVENNER. During this period of time how much of your day was usually spent in connection with your Communist Party work?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. A very great deal of it. Meetings were held in the evenings and I attended over the course of a period of time; executive meetings which probably would be held on Monday evenings; membership meetings on Tuesday evenings; section meetings on Wednesday evenings; contact with party members or attendance at other county meetings or other rallies during the rest of the week; and mobilizations for canvassing for the Worker on Saturdays and Sundays; and my time also had to be spent in reporting all of these for the files of the New York City Police Department. So a great deal of my time was spent in this activity during the period of the 9 years.

Mr. TAVENNER. How did you prepare your reports to the New York City Police Department?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Well, immediately upon arriving home from a meeting I would have to write the reports and have them ready for the police department. It was a matter of compiling the information as soon as possible after the meeting was held.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you preserve copies of the reports you made to the police department?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes; copies are in the files of the New York City Police Department.

Mr. TAVENNER. Are you under subpoena to appear here and testify?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. That is correct.

Mr. TAVENNER. Were you asked by the staff of this committee in preparation for your testimony here, to make a study of the reports or copies of the reports which you had made to the New York City Police Department?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes; I was.

Mr. TAVENNER. Have you made a thorough and complete study of your files?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. I have made as thorough and complete a study as I possibly could, due to the pressure of time. I have spent a good

deal of time in the preparation of material to be presented to you. It has taken about 2 months to compile the material.

Mr. TAVENNER. Therefore, your testimony before the committee today is based upon your own reports which you made at the time of the incidents?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes, that is correct; reports that are now official reports in the files of the New York City Police Department.

Mr. TAVENNER. I believe, Mrs. Blauvelt, that you received a signal honor as a result of the services you rendered in this undercover capacity. Our information is that you received a police department citation for exceptional merit which is an award given for an act of bravery, intelligently performed involving risk of life. Did you receive such an award?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes, sir; I did.

Mr. TAVENNER. Are you the only woman who has received such an award from the police department of the city of New York?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. I was the first one to receive it.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you tell the committee what official positions you held in the various groups to which you were assigned by the Communist Party?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. When I was in the Ninth A. D. Club I was made a group captain, which meant that several of the members of the Ninth A. D. Club were placed in my supervision.

I was to visit them, inform them of meetings, tell them about party activities, attempt to activize them in party activities, collect their dues.

When I was in the Parkside Club I was made chairman of the fund drive committee being conducted for the party in 1946.

In the Lincoln Road Club I was its financial secretary for a period of about 2 months, then I became its press director, and in the Jay-Smith Club I was its financial secretary for the entire duration of my membership in the club, plus acting as organizer at certain times, and as membership director at other times.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did your duties require your attendance at the section or county meetings of the Communist Party?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. At section levels; yes, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. On section levels?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. During the period of time you held these positions in the party, were you required by the Communist Party to engage in any special course of training for your work?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you mean required by the Communist Party to engage in such training?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes. When I first became a member of the party, as a member of the Ninth A. D. Club they sent me to the Workers School of New York City. They told me they were sending me there on a scholarship. I did not have to pay my own way. They were paying it for me. I went there for a period of a couple of months. Then in the Flatbush Club a class was conducted in the fundamentals of Marxism given by Abe Feingold, the educational director of the club, and I was requested to attend that class as a new member of the party.

I did receive some very formal education by being selected to attend a county training class in 1948 and a regional training class in 1950 and if you would like any of the details regarding those classes, I could give them to you. They were selected groups of the members of the party.

These classes were considered to be cadres. The intent was to train the people selected for these classes for party leadership.

Mr. TAVENNER. This would be a good place to explain that.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Well, for instance in the 1948 class which was a county training class, Bernie Frank was the instructor. The regional training class which was held in 1950 was held in the home of Gert Levine, at 1343 45th Street. And the instructors in that class were Joseph Bell, Ben Davis, Bea Sacks, and Harry Oacher. It may also be spelled O-n-c-h-e-r.

Mr. TAVENNER. You mentioned the name of Ben Davis. Is that the Benjamin J. Davis, Jr., who was elected councilman for the city of New York?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. No. Ben Davis was one of the important functionaries in the Brooklyn Communist Party, a member of the regional group of which my Boro Hall section was a part, regional director for a while and also one of the functionaries on the county committee of the Brooklyn Communist Party.

These courses ran for 5 or 6 weeks and each ran 3 nights a week. At the beginning of the 1948 class, the county training class, we were addressed by Margaret Krumbein, who was also known as Margaret Cowl, who was a member of the county committee assigned to this particular work of organizing classes or cadres for training. She explained that this class or school, in her own words, was a cadre and was being conducted by the county committee for the purpose of training certain members in Marxist theory in the light of present-day issues.

Bernie Frank, the instructor, stated that the goal of this cadre was to develop forces for party leadership in the important struggles facing the party through the study of Marxist theory, and its application to party activity, and it was necessary to develop leadership in the party so that the party through its activity could mold the opinion of the people and give impetus to mass movements.

This was the general explanation that was given to us in this class before it started.

The course of study was on the nature of capitalism, capitalist crises, imperialism and monopoly capital, imperialism and war, fascism and struggle for democracy, the Negro question, strategy and tactics, policies and program of the party, organization of the party.

The material to be studied was: Political Economy, by Leontiev; Imperialism, by Lenin; State and Revolution, by Lenin; Foundations of Leninism, by Stalin; Report to the Seventh World Congress, by Dimitrov; Wieden's Notes on the National Question; Bob Thompson's Questions and Answers on the Negro Question; Ben Davis' Path to Negro Liberation; and a Marxist study guide which was entitled, "Theory and Practice of Communism."

The Daily Worker was included in the material; Political Affairs was included in the material; and Foster's Report to the National Committee Meeting of February 3 to 5, 1948, was included.

In addition to which an educational pamphlet called Clarity, issued by the educational department of the New York State Communist Party, was included in that material.

The regional training class followed practically the same course of study, and I don't know whether you want me to go into that or not. If you do, I will do so.

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes; first, in a general way, please. It may be we will want to hear it in detail.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. The regional training class was conducted by the particular region of which my section was a member.

Mr. TAVENNER. I believe we should have it in detail.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. The topics covered were Basic Principles of Political Economy; the Features and Contradictions of Capitalism; Features of Socialism; Imperialism as a Stage of Capitalism; Imperialism and Its Contradictions; White Chauvinism; Vanguard Role of the Party; Concentration as a Leninist; Method of Work; Opportunism! United Front; Communist Vigilance; and the material used was practically the same.

It was Lenin's Imperialism; Stalin's Foundations of Leninism; Foster's Twilight of World Capitalism; Anna Rochester's Nature of Capitalism; History of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union; and some issues of Political Affairs.

Joseph Starobin's pamphlet Should the Americans Back the Marshall Plan; Harry Haywood's book on Negro Liberation; Stalin's Marxism and the National Question; and Pettis Perry's report, Press Forward the Struggle Against White Chauvinism.

Ben Davis' report on the Negro People in the Fight for Peace and Freedom; and Thirty Years of the Communist Party in the U. S. A.

Gilbert Green's Need for Strengthening Communist Vigilance, which appeared in the May 1950 issue of Political Affairs.

I think probably there might be one session which would be of interest to you in this particular class, which was held on May 2, 1950. Bea Sacks, who was the organizer of the Boro Hall section, and also a member of the county committee of the Brooklyn Communist Party, made the point that according to Lenin concentration work meant that the party must conduct its activities among the workers in basic industries because it was there that the most exploited and oppressed workers in the capitalist system could be found, and it was easier to reach them and influence them in the shops.

She told the comrades that the main concentration work of the party in Brooklyn was among the longshoremen, that transit was also one of the chief concentrations, and that the party had recently started concentration activity among domestic workers. Metals was another concentration in which the party was interested.

It was at the last session of the class held May 4, 1950, that Margaret Krumbein, who had the job of organizing these cadre groups, told the comrades that the purpose was to train the comrades to do better work in their clubs, that they expected them to return to their party clubs and really assume the role of leadership after these particular classes were held.

Mr. TAVENNER. I believe you stated that your membership began in 1943?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes, that is right.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you continue, please, with the circumstances under which you became a member of the Communist Party?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. I had to gain entrance into the party and I discovered that the Ninth A. D. had advertised some forums in the Daily Worker, so I attended one of these forums and, of course, as soon as I appeared at it, I was recognized as a newcomer and was approached with the invitation to come back to further forums. Frank Asher, the executive secretary of the Ninth A. D. Club at that time, invited me to attend a meeting, which I did. And following that meeting he asked me to come to a meeting which was being held on April 4, 1943, in the home of Fan Fundler, which I did, and at which time I formally joined the Communist Party.

Mr. SCHERER. What year was that?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. 1943.

Mr. TAVENNER. You stated you were recruited as a result of your having attended certain forums. Did you preserve an advertisement of the forums that you attended?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes, I did.

Mr. TAVENNER. I hand you a photostatic copy of an advertisement of a forum. Did you attend the forums appearing in this advertisement?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes, I did. There are 2 forums, 1 on March 11 and another on March 25, 1943, which I attended before my entrance into the Communist Party.

The other two forums, one on April 8 and another on April 22, 1943, I attended after I had become a member of the Communist Party.

Mr. TAVENNER. I desire to offer the document in evidence and ask that it be marked "Blauvelt Exhibit No. 1," and that it be incorporated in the transcript of the record.

Mr. WILLIS. It is so ordered.

(The exhibit referred to is as follows:)

#### BLAUVELT EXHIBIT No. 1

#### FOUR FORUMS FOR VICTORY

THURSDAYS AT 8:30 P. M.

**March 11: America Answers Nazi Slaughters in Europe**

Symposium—Speakers: Rev. Ethelred Brown, Max Felshin, and Abraham Chapman. Morning Freiheit.

**March 25: Discrimination Cripples Manpower.**

Speaker: Cyril Philip, Negro Communist Leader.

**April 8: Zionism and Palestine. A New Approach.**

Speaker: David Goldway, State educational director, Communist Party.

**April 22: Anti-Semitism Is Treason—Make It a Crime.**

Speakers: Rev. James Robinson, and Isidore Begun.

At the Hotel Newton, 2528 Broadway, at 93d Street, New York. Auspices: 9th A. D. Club of the Communist Party.

Subscription: Series of 4 lectures, 75 cents, single, 25 cents.

Mr. TAVENNER. Were you issued a Communist Party card on joining the Communist Party?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes, I was.

Mr. TAVENNER. I hand you a number of cards and ask you to identify them, please. Will you state what they are?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. These are the membership cards which were issued to me noting my membership in the Communist Party for the years 1943 to 1948 inclusive. The card that I was given for 1944 is in the name of the Communist Political Association. The last card which I received was the membership card for 1948. That was the last year that the party issued membership cards. They discontinued after that year, as a matter of security.

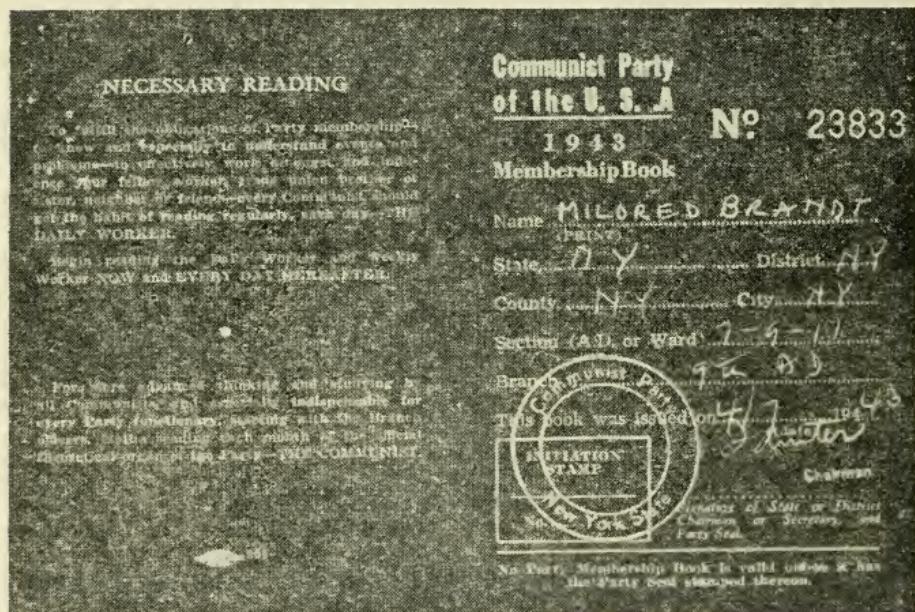
Mr. TAVENNER. What name did you use when you became a member of the Ninth A. D. Club of the Communist Party?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. In the Ninth A. D. Club I used the name of Mildred Brandt, and after I was expelled from the Ninth A. D. Club I had to assume another alias and I assumed the name of Sylvia Vogel, which was the name I was known by in the party from 1944 through 1951.

Mr. TAVENNER. I would like to offer in evidence the first Communist Party card issued to you under the name of Mildred Brandt in 1943, and the last Communist Party card which was issued in 1948 to you under the name of Sylvia Vogel, and ask that they be marked "Blauvelt Exhibits Nos. 2 and 3" respectively, and that they be incorporated in the transcript of the record.

Mr. WILLIS. It is so ordered.

(The exhibits referred to are as follows:)



BLAUVELT EXHIBIT NO. 2

1943 MEMBERSHIP DUES			
January Dues	February Dues	March Dues	April <b>DUES 50c</b>
			<b>Anti- Fascist Fund 15c</b>
Assessment	Assessment	Assessment	
May <b>DUES 50c</b>	June <b>DUES 50c</b>	July <b>DUES 50c</b>	August <b>DUES 50c</b>
Anti- Fascist Fund 15c	Anti- Fascist Fund 10c	Anti- Fascist Fund 10c	Anti- Fascist Fund 15c
Assessment	Assessment	Assessment	Assessment

Place Dues and Assessment Stamps on This Page

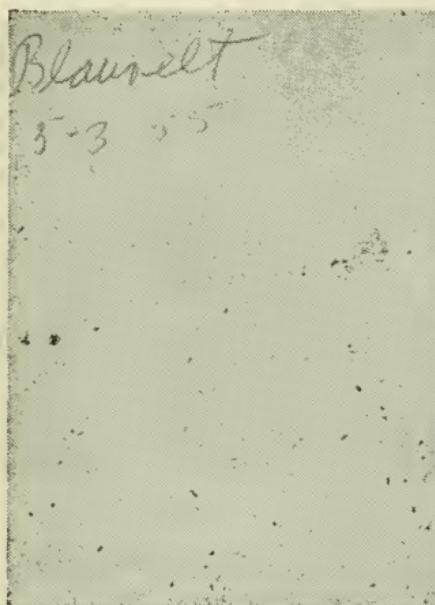
Place Additional Stamps on This Page	
JANUARY	FEBRUARY
MARCH	APRIL
MAY	JUNE
JULY	AUGUST
SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER
NOVEMBER	DECEMBER

BLAUVELT EXHIBIT NO. 2

1942 DUES ARREARS			
SUMMER Dues	Autumn Dues	November Dues	December Dues
Assessment	Assessment	Assessment	Assessment

Place other stamps here

BLAUVELT EXHIBIT NO. 2



BLAUVELT EXHIBIT NO. 2

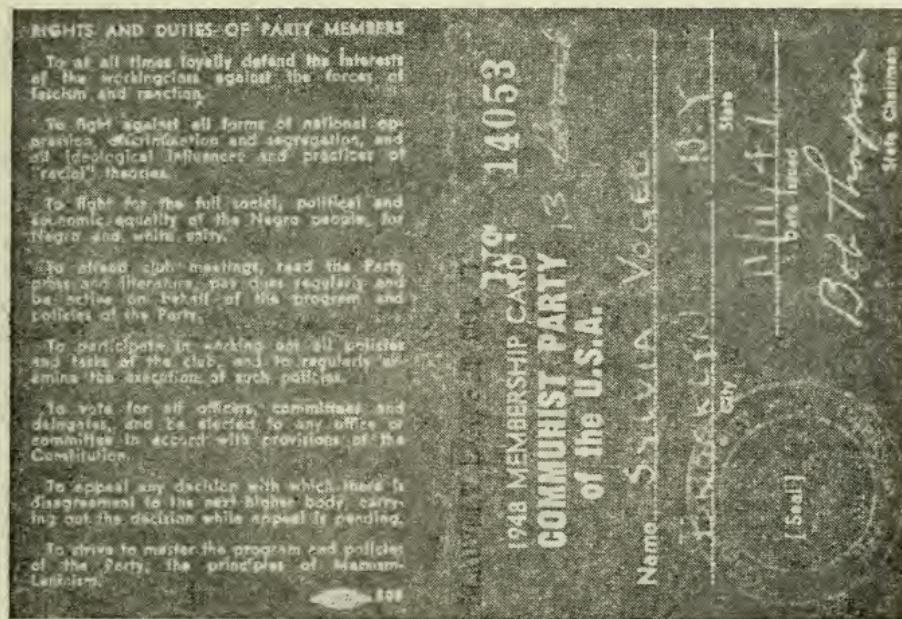
1948 DUES		1947 DUES		
DUES	C.P.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.
DUES C.P. U.S.A. \$1.00	DUES C.P. U.S.A. \$1.00			
		DEC.		

INITIATION STAMP

DUES RATES		
	PER MO.	
Income over \$6.00 per week	\$2.00	
Income \$25.00 to \$40.00 per week	\$1.00	
Income under \$75.00 per week	25¢	
Unemployed	10¢	

Read the DAILY WORKER  
and the WORKER  
Read our Monthly Magazine  
POLITICAL AFFAIRS

BLAUVELT EXHIBIT NO. 3



BLAUVELT EXHIBIT NO. 3

Mr. TAVENNER. I should like to have the privilege of making photostatic copies and returning the originals to the witness.

Mr. WILLIS. That procedure will be followed.

In the course of your work in the Communist Party, did you find it common or uncommon for members to use their own names or aliases for party reasons or for any other reasons?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. I found both to be the case. There were many who used their own names, had no objection to using their own names, but there also were many who did use party names, as they were called.

There were known in the party by those party names. And they would use them in many instances to conceal their identity, their true identity for reasons of their own, probably for positions that they held or to the degree they might have been known by other people.

Mr. WILLIS. I suppose the Communist Party knew that that practice prevailed?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. That would be known, I would say to most of the executive members of the club.

Mr. TAVENNER. You spoke of the Ninth A. D. Club. What do the initials "A. D." represent?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Assembly district. The clubs usually were divided into geographical designations according to assembly districts, especially at that particular time. The Upper West Side section, had the 7th A. D. Club, 9th A. D. Club and 11th A. D. Club and I was a member of the Ninth A. D. Club.

Mr. TAVENNER. Can you tell the committee the approximate numerical strength of the Ninth A. D. Club during the period of your membership?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. I can't give you any exact figure on that because I was in the club too short a time and the membership in the light of numbers was not discussed. I would assume that there might have been at least 100 from the composition of the clubs at that time.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you please give us the names of the members of the Ninth A. D. Club, whom you can of your own knowledge identify as members of the Communist Party?

I would like to make this preliminary statement in regard to it. If, in the course of identifying members of that group you should name any person known to you to be a member of the Communist Party who, at any subsequent period of time was issued a license to teach that you so state if that is a fact; and if the license to teach was revoked or surrendered, that fact should also be stated.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. In the Ninth A. D. Club I knew the following Communist Party members through having met them at party meetings. [Reading:]

Archie Abrams, 308 West 92d Street, New York City. I met him at the time that I joined the party in the home of Fan Fundler. At that time he told me he had joined the Communist Party in the days of the depression and he was waiting for his orders to go to Fort Monmouth, which came through the following day.

Ruth Abrams of 308 West 92d Street, New York City, was the financial secretary of the Ninth A. D. Club and also a member of the county committee. She later became executive secretary of the Ninth A. D. Club, one of the active members of the club.

Dorothy Ames, 467 Central Park West, New York City; I understood she changed her name from Abrams. She was one of the members placed in my group. In other words, I was her group captain. She did attend party meetings.

Mr. TAVENNER. If any of the persons whom you are identifying as members with you in any group of the Communist Party are now being investigated by any investigative agency of the State or Federal Government, I suggest that your identification of those individuals be reserved for executive session.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. All right. [Reading:]

Michael Ames, 467 Central Park West, New York City. He attended meetings prior to his induction into the service.

Frank Asher, 425 Central Park West, New York City, who was the executive secretary of the club and took great interest in me when I first came into the Ninth A. D. Club insofar as his recruiting me into the party. He was also a member of the county committee and he became chairman of the club while I was there.

Steve Ballin was the industrial director of the club and a delegate to the county convention which was held at that time.

Ann Boylan attended some meetings. I remember one time she said her husband was in San Francisco doing organizing work. The implication was doing organizational work for the Communist Party; organizing in some connection or other. She didn't specify just what.

I think I would like to point out here there were two members in the Ninth A. D. Club who had been placed in my group as group captain, and when their names were given to me by Ruth Abrams, financial secretary of the club, she told me they never attended meetings, and I was to collect their dues from Frank Asher, the executive secretary. Frank Asher told me they had been members of the party 6 years prior to this time and had rejoined in February 1943.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you collect the dues from them personally?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Not personally, no; I collected their dues from Frank Asher.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Chairman, I suggest the identification of those two individuals be reserved for executive session.

Mr. WILLIS. It is so ordered.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. I come across a name here that would fall into the category you just mentioned, of being investigated by one of the city departments.

Mr. TAVENNER. Please withhold the name for executive session.

Mrs. BLAUVELT (reading) :

Fan Fundler, 143 West 96th Street, New York City. It was at her home I joined the Communist Party, April 4, 1943.

Bert Greene, whom I met at meetings.

Minna Horowitz, who was director of the party's press drive taking place at that time.

Rose Lurie, who told me she was a physiotherapist in some hospital. She is one of the comrades who took great interest in me when I first came into the Ninth A. D. Club and was actually credited with having recruited me into the party.

Pete Mendell was chairman of the club and a picture of Pete Mendell appears in the Daily Worker of June 11, 1943, under the name of Amen Dell.

Al Prago, who directed the Daily Worker fund drive. Al Prago had been designated as a member of the Veterans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade and subsequently I did see his name in catalogs of the Jefferson School of Social Science listed as an instructor with the notation that he was national commander of the Veterans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade at one time.

Bea G. Schutz, 130 West 97th Street, New York City, who was membership director of the Ninth A. D. Club. She did have a substitute license in the New York City school system, but it was surrendered.

Fanny Sheftman, 425 Central Park West, New York City. She was a member of my particular group. She told me she had a defense job, that she was a block captain in the air raid warden service and also served on the local draft board. I did succeed in collecting dues from her.

Joe Silver was legislative director of the club and he was a delegate to the county convention held at that time.

Rose Wallach of 315 West 98th Street, New York City. She was active in CDVO work and also was a delegate to the county convention held at that time.

Dorothy Weber, 9 West 97th Street, New York City, also known as Ryder, R-y-d-e-r which I believe was her maiden name. She wished to use the name of "White" in the party. She said she was a Civil Service worker. She was also in my group. She paid me dues and did attend meetings.

William Weinstone, who was connected with the Workers School of New York City. He was elected a delegate to the county convention that was held at that time.

Abraham Ziff, who became a new member of the club at about the time that I did.

I also knew Abraham Chapman as chairman of the Upper West Side section. He did attend a meeting at the Ninth A. D. Club.

David Goldway, of 467 Central Park West, New York City, spoke at one of the forums of the club.

Goldie Young, who was introduced to me as organizer of the section.

Mr. TAVENNER. I hand you four issues of the bulletin or periodical entitled "News of the Ninth." Will you examine them and state what they are, please?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. These are bulletins which were issued by the Ninth A. D. Club, which reported on the activities of the club and on meetings and also included announcements of future meetings, also little bits of information about the party members and forums that were being held.

Mr. TAVENNER. In referring to the names of the Communist Party members, is that a reference to the full names of the individuals, or merely the first name and last initial?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. In most cases I would say that just the first names or the first names with a last initial was used.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you know who edited the News of the Ninth?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. No, I don't.

Mr. TAVENNER. I desire to offer the four bulletins in evidence and ask that they be marked "Blauvelt Exhibits Nos. 4, 5, 6, and 7," for identification purposes only, and to be made a part of the committee files for further analysis and study.

Mr. WILLIS. It is so ordered.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you state that there were possibly as many as 100 members of this first club of which you became a member?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. I believe from any computation I could make on membership at that time, that that would be so. I cannot be absolutely sure.

Mr. TAVENNER. Except for a few whose names you will give us in executive session, have you given us the names of all the members you can positively identify as members of that group?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. That is right.

Mr. TAVENNER. You stated that you were expelled from that group in the Ninth A. D. Club.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. That is right.

Mr. TAVENNER. What was the reason for the expulsion?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Frank Asher, the executive secretary of the club, or chairman at the time of my expulsion, suddenly confronted me with the statement that I was being charged with being a member of the Christian Front and therefore I would have to be expelled from the party. However, I didn't even know what the Christian Front was. Of course I denied any affiliation and it was supposed to be taken under consideration, and I had to keep in contact with him for a period of several weeks. I did so and of course I was told that things looked very bad for me and finally in September the expulsion really did become official.

Mr. WILLIS. Did you have a hearing?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. No, I had absolutely no hearing whatsoever. I was just confronted with the charge by the chairman of the club and that was the end of it.

Mr. WILLIS. Did he tell you you could have counsel such as we accord witnesses here?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. No, sir; that was absolutely all there was to it. I was given no opportunity to refute any charges.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did he explain to you that you could refuse to answer on the grounds of the fifth amendment?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. No, sir; I was just accused and thrown out. I wasn't given an opportunity to say anything.

Mr. TAVENNER. Were you advised of the character of the evidence which the chairman apparently relied upon as a basis for the charge?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. No.

Mr. SCHERER. Do you think that was the real reason you were expelled, namely, your alleged membership in this Christian Front organization?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. I was not a member of the Christian Front so actually there could have been no basis for such an accusation. It is possible that they might have discovered that I was a member of the

New York City Police Department, but just were not confronting me with that information. It might have been a ruse on their part. There certainly was no basis for a charge of "Christian Frontism."

Mr. WILLIS. Did you ever find out what the Christian Front was supposed to be?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. According to the explanation I later heard through the Communist Party, the Christian Front was considered by them to be an extremely anti-Semitic organization and of course they were utterly opposed to it. They usually included in the group of Christian Frontists, Father Coughlin and Gerald L. K. Smith and people of that type.

Mr. TAVENNER. When you were expelled in 1951, were you faced with the specific charge of being a member of the FBI or the New York City Police Department?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes; that was a very definite charge but there again I was not confronted with any evidence. In connection with that expulsion, if you are interested in hearing the process, I will go into it.

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes, now that we have spoken of it, will you describe the story of your expulsion in 1951?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. In 1951 the Communist Party was conducting what they called verifications. It was a term that they applied to what we would naturally call screening and they had started with the top echelon in the party and were going down through all of the executive ranks, and as an executive member of the Jay-Smith Club I was called in to a meeting to answer certain questions about my background.

I was given a mimeographed legal sized form several pages in length, containing about 60 questions, and had to answer in detail each one of the questions on that form.

Mr. TAVENNER. I believe you have prepared a list of a number of those questions?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes, sir; but I do not have that list in front of me.

Mr. TAVENNER. Just omit that phase of it and we will produce that later.

Mr. WILLIS. I wonder if you would remember that in substance now.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. The substance of the questions was, I would say, the background of one's life from practically one's date of birth through the educational process that one had undergone and also the educational process toward becoming a Communist, what were your party affiliations or what were your leftist leanings before you became a member of the Communist Party, and how were they developed within the party.

Mr. TAVENNER. And also whether you had been a member of a political party and if so which one?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes; what was your political affiliation before you became a member of the Communist Party. It went into a great deal of detail about one's background and left nothing out, I would say, so far as one's life history was concerned.

There were two members of the party conducting this verification. One was David Sales and the other Allen Rosenstein. They were members of the review commission and had been appointed to conduct this verification. After this particular verification they called me into a private hearing.

Mr. TAVENNER. Were all members subjected to this verification?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. At this time, no, just the executive members of the Jay-Smith Club. There were about three of us undergoing this particular verification. But I was called back for a further oral hearing and at this one they told me they were considering me for a confidential assignment within the party, but that I would have to be further verified, further screened. And then they later told me that they would have to hold this assignment in abeyance.

There were charges—not charges—but suspicion that I might be a member or agent for the FBI. Certain things were happening in the Boro Hall section; they did not know if they could blame me for whatever was going on; maybe it was somebody else who wanted to divert suspicion from themselves, trying to cast it upon me. I was told to review the membership to find out whether or not I could determine whether I had an enemy in the party, or whether there might be anybody who would be an enemy of the party who was doing this work of provocation.

However, they did finally call me in to a meeting in the latter part of November of 1951 at which actually expulsion proceedings were conducted. At that time they accused me of being a member of the New York City Police Department and told me inasmuch as I was a stool pigeon and spy and had done my dirty work, I no longer had any place in the Communist Party and I was being expelled.

Mr. WILLIS. The subcommittee will take an informal recess for 5 minutes.

(Brief recess.)

Mr. WILLIS. The subcommittee will come to order.

Let the record show that Mr. Willis and Mr. Scherer are present, constituting a quorum.

Proceed, Mr. Tavenner.

Mr. TAVENNER. What time of the year 1943 were you expelled from the 9th A. D. Club of the Communist Party?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. I would say that my formal ending of membership in the Ninth A. D. Club took place at the beginning of September of 1943.

Mr. TAVENNER. You have told us that you were directed to try to regain entrance into the Communist Party in another area of the city?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. That is correct.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you describe the circumstances under which that took place?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Well, immediately upon my final expulsion from the Ninth A. D. Club, I again had to renew my efforts to gain entrance into the Communist Party and I did this over the next several months, and it was in January of 1944 that I once again through the Daily Worker saw an advertisement which had been inserted by the Flatbush Club advertising a forum, and I therefore attended that forum and once again I was looked upon as a good potential recruit. They were in the midst of a recruiting drive at that time. I was invited to attend other forums by Abe Feingold in particular, the educational director of the club, and he did also invite me to attend one of the meetings of the club. This was prior to my becoming a member.

Then finally at one meeting that was held April 4, 1944, I did consent to become a member of the party once again. This time in the Flatbush Club.

Mr. TAVENNER. What name did you use this time?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Sylvia Vogel.

Mr. TAVENNER. How long did you remain a member of the Flatbush Club?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Until January 1946. The Flatbush Club underwent a reorganization, was broken down into smaller clubs and I was placed in the Parkside Club.

Mr. TAVENNER. Were we in the war period during the time you were a member of the Ninth A. D. Club and the Flatbush Club?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. That is right.

Mr. TAVENNER. Would it be correct to say then that the activities of both those clubs during the war period were substantially the same?

Mr. BLAUVELT. Yes; I would say so.

Mr. TAVENNER. Without attempting to break down activities of the 2 clubs, the Ninth A. D. and the Flatbush; what were the chief activities of the Communist Party during your membership in that war period?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. I found that one of the big issues that was raised was the opening of a "second front." They were continually calling for a "second front" until it became an actuality in 1944, and they were very concerned about the war effort. They accepted the no-strike pledge, they participated in all war activities such as civil defense, buying of war bonds, giving blood and all that type of war activity. This continued while I was a member of the Ninth A. D. Club and while I was a member of the Flatbush Club of the Communist Political Association.

There was a very definite change in policy from this period, if you would like me to go into that at this point. I think probably one example of the change in policy can be shown through the—

Mr. WILLIS. At what time was the change in policy?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. This covers the period of 1943 and 1944, and I would say—well, part of 1945 up until the conclusion of the war.

Mr. WILLIS. Are you still talking about the war period?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes, the war period. During that period their policy was very broad, one of cooperation with capitalism, but there was a radical change at the end of the war. One example is in the Flatbush Club. For instance, they had been very vigorous in war-loan bond drives, but as soon as the war ended that discontinued. The Treasury Department had sent a letter to the club, read by the chairman of the club, at one meeting, but consideration had to be given to this request on the part of the Treasury Department to join in a victory war loan drive, and it was based on political reasoning.

The decision was that the Treasury Department was to be informed that even though the Flatbush Club was proud of its record in the past in the bond drives, now that they were engaged in the struggles of labor and other issues of China and Palestine they would have no time to participate in a victory war loan drive.

That was one of the examples I think that might be of interest. However, when it comes to the so-called struggles of labor, there was a very distinct line of demarcation in party policy. They had, for instance, accepted the no-strike pledge and an example of that I think can be shown when I was a member of the 9th A. D. Club. A meet-

ing was held specifically, on May 11, 1943, at which Sam Barron of the Workers School of New York City spoke. He spoke about Stalin's order of the day which had been issued on May Day and how it called for a second front.

He discussed the coal-mining situation at that time. John L. Lewis had called for a strike. He said it was treason on the part of Lewis to call for a strike at that time, because it would impede the war effort. However, I found that as soon as the war ended and labor situations did arise there were strikes in which the party did give its support.

For instance, in the fall of 1945 the longshoremen went on strike, and that was supported by the party. The Food, Tobacco and Agricultural and Allied Workers Union of America struck against the American Tobacco Co. and they sent cards. Party members were given printed cards to send to the American Tobacco Co. in protest.

Mr. TAVENNER. I hand you a photostatic copy of such card and ask whether that is the type card used by the Communist Party membership in attempting to boycott products of the American Tobacco Co.?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. That is right. This is the card. We were given this card and instructed to send it to the American Tobacco Co.

Mr. TAVENNER. Please read the last paragraph of the card addressed to that company.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. It reads:

This is to inform you that I am refraining from buying any of your products until the demands of your employees are met.

Mr. TAVENNER. I desire to offer this card in evidence and ask that it be marked "Blauvelt Exhibit No. 8" and that it be incorporated in the transcript of the record.

Mr. WILLIS. It is so ordered.

(The exhibit referred to is as follows:)

**BLAUVELT EXHIBIT NO. 8**

AMERICAN TOBACCO COMPANY,  
111 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

To the American Tobacco Company:

GENTLEMEN: I understand that 2,500 of your employees are on strike for a living wage—65 cents an hour minimum and a 25-cent increase in pay. Even just from seeing your Company's advertisements in the press and hearing your programs on the radio, it is evident that a corporation as large as yours can afford to pay its employees enough to guarantee them a decent American standard of living.

This is to inform you that I am refraining from buying any of your products until the demands of your employees are met.

Yours truly,

Mrs. BLAUVELT. There was another strike where a great deal of activity was conducted in the Flatbush Club—the General Motors strike in December 1945 and January 1946. The comrades made monetary contributions to a strikers' fund. They solicited contributions of food from the shoppers. The members' participation in this activity was well organized in the Flatbush Club.

Mr. TAVENNER. Therefore we have the distinct picture of a neighborhood group or cell of the Communist Party being active in strikes.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. That is correct. There was a Western Union strike around January of 1946, and in connection with all of this strike situation we had a meeting at the Parkside Club one evening.

It was on January 22 of 1946, when one of the members by the name of Leonard Tyler reported on the strike situation, and said that the club was going to form a strike-activities committee to participate in these strike struggles.

Ruth Wang, who was the membership director of the section, said that the county committee was participating in the strike struggle and that as of January 24, 1946, the county committee was inaugurating a 7-day campaign to raise \$7,000 for Communist Party strike activities and planned on sending 20 volunteers to industrial cities in upstate New York to cover strike activities; and Nat Rosenbluth, chairman of the Flatbush section, stated the State committee planned on raising \$20,000 for a strike-activities fund.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Chairman, this may be an explanation of testimony we received at Albany, N. Y., of the importation into that area of numerous Communist Party workers from the New York area. It seems to me to prove that our suspicions at Albany were correct.

Mr. WILLIS. The New York example was a pattern.

Mr. TAVENER. Yes, here we have evidence for the first time from a cell in the Communist Party that people were being organized to go into upstate New York for Communist Party purposes where we have received testimony that people did come upstate from New York, but we could not prove that it was a concerted plan of the Communist Party.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Now at this time, in January of 1946, while the Western Union strike was being conducted, the party members were instructed to join the picket lines and some of the members of our club did so.

There is one interesting—I believe it is interesting—strike which took place in June of 1946, and at a meeting of the Parkside Club, Sid Wang, one of the organizers of the Flatbush section, stated that wholehearted support had to be given by the party to the impending maritime strike. He said the local branches and sections of the Communist Party would not prepare any strike literature in their own names, because the possibility existed that the preparation of such literature might be undertaken by some one not sufficiently advanced politically or by a "provocateur" in the Communist Party for the purpose of taking advantage of just such an opportunity to subtly misrepresent the Communist Party's position, and in order to avoid the possibility of any literature ever being used as a weapon against the Communist Party, the State committee was handling the preparation of maritime-strike literature to be distributed by the various clubs.

At this time also the comrades were asked to sign little coupons pledging that they would take seamen into their homes to give them lodgings.

Mr. TAVENER. I hand you a throwaway sheet entitled "The House YOU Live In." In the right-hand corner there is a coupon. Will you examine it and state whether it is the coupon to which you are referring?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes, that is it.

Mr. TAVENER. I desire to offer the document and ask that it be marked "Blauvelt Exhibit No. 9," for identification purposes only, and to be made a part of the committee files.

Mr. WILLIS. It is so ordered.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. On the continuation of party participation in the so-called strike struggle, in October of 1946 the New York State Communist Party issued a leaflet, the intent of which was to explain the Communist support of the United Mine Workers of America strikers—the strike going on at that particular time. The explanation was that the Communists did not like Lewis but they did support the mine strikers for the sake of the miners and the cause of labor.

In May 1947 there was a strike at the Reynolds Tobacco Co. and Camel cigarettes were boycotted.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was any boycott action taken at your club meeting in connection with the products of that company?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. The comrades were actually instructed to boycott products of the Reynolds Tobacco Co. Then in July of 1947 when I was a member of the Jay-Smith Club another strike took place at the Brooklyn Trust Co. at 177 Montague Street, Brooklyn. This was considered a rather important strike because this was the first strike in any bank.

Mr. TAVENNER. What union was involved?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. United Office and Professional Workers of America conducted the strike.

At a meeting of the Jay-Smith Club on August 5, 1947, Eleanor Schor, the club organizer, instructed the comrades to telephone the Brooklyn Trust Co. between the hours of 10 o'clock and 11 o'clock in the morning and 1 and 3 p. m. in the afternoon as a nuisance measure so that the employees who were in the bank would be harrassed at hours when they would be busiest.

Mr. TAVENNER. What was the nature of those telephone calls?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. The nature of the telephone call was to give a fictitious name just to give them trouble in locating a name, to waste their time and annoy them. There would be no such account in the bank but it would interrupt their functioning during busy hours.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was that type of action directed by the Communist Party leadership of your group?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes, those were directives we received.

There was a longshoremen's strike or shipyard workers strike, I guess you would call it, in September 1947, and we were asked to bring food to those workers. The American Communications Association was on strike in February 1948 and we were asked to support that with collection cans. The miners' strike in 1950 was supported and an American Safety Razor Co. strike in 1951 was supported by collections of food and funds.

Mr. TAVENNER. I hand you a throwaway sheet regarding the last mentioned strike and I will ask whether or not it was used in your Communist Party meetings.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes, this was distributed at a party meeting in 1951 when this particular strike at the American Safety Razor Co. was being conducted.

Mr. TAVENNER. I desire to introduce the document in evidence and ask that it be marked "Blauvelt Exhibit 10," and that it be incorporated in the transcript of the record.

Mr. WILLIS. It is so ordered.

(The exhibit referred to is as follows:)

BLAUVELT EXHIBIT No. 10

51-815

# We Can't Eat Razors --- We Need Raises!

Over 1100 of us, members of Local 475, U.E.R.M.W.A. (UE), who work for the American Safety Razor Company in Brooklyn, have been on strike since May 1st for a desperately needed wage increase.

## ASR WORKERS NEED 20¢ INCREASE

Ever since the first of April, we have been trying to negotiate an increase in wages to help us support our families and meet the sky-rocketing cost of living. The minimum rate in our shop is \$1.03 per hour. We need at least 20¢ per hour more. This is little enough in face of today's increased food prices and higher taxes.

## ASR COMPANY CAN AFFORD TO PAY

While our savings disappeared long ago and many of us have had to go into debt to meet our bills, the American Safety Razor Company increased its reserves from \$9,126,316 to \$10,188,313 at the end of 1950.

While high prices forced the living standards of its workers down, the American Safety Razor Company showed a profit for 1950 of \$2,410,641. Even after paying taxes, the ASR profits were 600% higher than in 1949.

## ASR REFUSES TO SETTLE

In spite of all our arguments, facts and figures, sound as they were, the Company refused to budge from a miserly 8¢ per hour offer. Hardly a drop in the bucket with food and clothing prices sky high and even higher taxes just around the corner. The stubborn and arrogant attitude of the ASR Company left us no choice but to strike.

## WE ASK YOUR SUPPORT

WE PRODUCE THE FOLLOWING PRODUCTS AT THE

## AMERICAN SAFETY RAZOR COMPANY

Gem Razors and Blades

Ever-Ready Brushes

Silver Star Blades

ASR Lighters

Blue Star Blades

Treet Blades

## SUPPORT OUR STRIKE

WRITE, WIRE OR TELEPHONE THE AMERICAN SAFETY RAZOR COMPANY,  
315 JAY STREET, BROOKLYN, MAIN 5-6100 AND URGE THEM TO SIT DOWN  
AND NEGOTIATE IMMEDIATELY.

Issued by: ASR Strike Committee, Local 475 U.E.R.M.W.A. (UE)  
160 Montague Street, Brooklyn, N.Y.



Mr. TAVENNER. What was the participation of the Communist Party in this strike?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. In a branch such as ours—a community branch—support had to be given to any activity on the part of the strikers and we were instructed to assist in whatever way we possibly could. They would need food, for instance, because they were not employed, and probably were not getting money, so it was one way of participation in the strike activity.

Mr. TAVENNER. The union which went on strike was local 475 of the United Electrical Radio & Machine Workers of America. Do you have any knowledge of participation by any Communist Party member on the strike committee of that union?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. I do not have any knowledge—not within my own group.

Mr. TAVENNER. Normally would that occur in a neighborhood group?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. No, sir; I would say not to any great extent.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you continue, please.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. As a further example of participation in strikes to the degree that a Communist club would participate in them, such as going to the picket line and participating in picketing or supplying strikers with food and clothing, there was another method of demonstration used by the party to bring attention to certain issues, and not simply a strike situation, but where picketing as a measure of activity would be employed. When I was in the Jay-Smith Club, for instance, we were instructed to join a picket line that was going to be conducted at the Greek consulate on July 9, 1947, being sponsored by the American Council for a Democratic Greece.

Mr. TAVENNER. I hand you a throwaway sheet relating to that demonstration. Will you examine it, please, and state whether it identifies the occasion of which you are speaking?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes. We were given these at a meeting to inform us of the particular picketing action that was going to be taken.

Mr. TAVENNER. I desire to offer the document in evidence and ask that it be marked "Blauvelt Exhibit 11," and that it be incorporated in the transcript of the record.

Mr. WILLIS. It is so ordered.

(The exhibit referred to is as follows:)

BLAUVELT EXHIBIT No. 11

51-508

--STOP THE WANTON BLOODSHED--

# PROTEST MURDERS OF GREEK PATRIOTS

PATRIOTIC RESISTANCE FIGHTERS BEING EXECUTED  
DAILY BY PRO-NAZI MONARCHIST GOVERNMENT

## Here Are The Facts:

1. 333, including 7 women, executed by firing squads on false charges after sentence by pro-Nazi court martials.
2. 17 heroes of the anti-Nazi Resistance Army, the ELAS, were shot on June 19 for having fought the Germans.
3. 1300 more such patriotic heroes have been sentenced and are awaiting death. Only our protest can save them.
4. Thousands in prison awaiting further sentences of death or exile.

JOIN THE MASS PICKET LINE BEFORE  
THE GREEK CONSULATE

AT 30 ROCKFELLER PLAZA  
(49th and 50th Streets)

ON WEDNESDAY, JULY 9th, AT 5 P.M.<sup>1947</sup>

TO PROTEST THESE EXECUTIONS AND  
THE MURDER OF GREEK DEMOCRATS

Sponsored by the  
AMERICAN COUNCIL FOR A DEMOCRATIC GREECE  
and the  
UNITED COMMITTEE TO PROTEST GREEK EXECUTIONS  
152 West 42nd Street • New York 21, N. Y.

**Mrs. BLAUVELT.** There were other instances when we were informed about picket lines. For instance, at the Lenin memorial meeting of January 14, 1948, leaflets advertising a picket line in front of the Spanish consulate January 15, 1948, by the Veterans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade were distributed, and then in 1950 on March 8, the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee was going to hold a picket line in front of the office of the Vultee Aviation Corp. to protest shipment of goods to Franco Spain and we were instructed to participate in that.

That was the type of activity that was conducted either in the strike situation or in protest.

**Mr. TAVENNER.** You began your discussion of the strike situation by telling us that during the period of the war the party was opposed to strikes.

**Mrs. BLAUVELT.** That is right.

**Mr. TAVENNER.** It was after the war was over that this strike participation took place. At the beginning of your testimony you mentioned a person by the name of Sam Barron who spoke at a meeting. I hand you another edition of News of the Ninth which was published by the Ninth District Assembly Club of the Communist Party, under date of May 6, 1948, and will you state whether a meeting was advertised to be held on May 11, 1948.

**Mrs. BLAUVELT.** Yes. In this particular News of the Ninth there is the announcement that at the next meeting, "What is holding up the Second Front" would be discussed by a prominent speaker, and in parentheses: "Can't announce the name."

**Mr. TAVENNER.** But you have described in your testimony that meeting and what Sam Barron, the speaker, said.

**Mrs. BLAUVELT.** Yes; the meeting was held on the following May 11 and it was Sam Barron of the Workers School of New York City who spoke.

**Mr. TAVENNER.** I hand you a later issue of the News of the Ninth and I will ask you to state whether or not you find confirmation of the fact in the last paragraph that Mr. Barron did speak.

**Mrs. BLAUVELT.** Yes; it says here:

In retrospect Sam Barron, to quote one listener at our last meeting "Gave the clearest and best analysis of the current world situation I have ever heard." Sorry you were too busy to get there, if you missed it.

**Mr. TAVENNER.** I desire to offer the 2 documents in evidence and ask that they be marked "Blauvelt Exhibits 12 and 13," respectively, and that they be incorporated in the transcript of the record.

**Mr. WILLIS.** It is so ordered.

(The exhibits referred to are as follows:)

#### BLAUVELT EXHIBIT No. 12

#### NEWS OF THE NINTH

Issued bimonthly by 9 A. D. Club Communist Party, New York City, May 6, 1948

Last issue we vowed we wouldn't brag about our meetings but—that last one was something that just can't be passed in silence. It was a wow! It ended with the audience of 100 yelling enthusiastically. Special credit must go to the excellent work of the cast and to the professional direction of Mike. And extra praise to Pete, the author of the script! Frustration of the week was Ernie, the stagehand, who was left standing at the light switch when the director forgot to give him the cue!

Headed for the Army soon is Mike, Herman, Selwyn, Leonard, Marty, Jesse, and Bea's husband, Herb. Among those already serving are Dave, Allan, Eddie, and Rose's two sons, one of them in the South Pacific.

#### RECRUITING DRIVE OVER

We've sent lots of our boys to fight, but for each one gone, two new members have joined our ranks. The section oversubscribed its quota by fifty. Our Club hit 27 out of a quota of 25—and still more are knocking on the doors. The News of the Ninth takes this opportunity to greet every one of you 27 and wants to say (for new members only—tired old timers skip to the next page): The Club looks to you newcomers to perk us old timers up a bit. We want your ideas, your freshness, your knowledge, your enthusiasm and energy. Don't be timid about discussing your problems and ideas with us. We want to hear them.

#### WALL STREET SECTION

We're running a modest sort of private fund drive. Don't skip buying those bonds, but if there's anything left over, we can use it. A hundred smackers in so far. Support the Club and stop inflation (sic).

#### THEATRE

**Two Best Bets of the Year:** Voice of the People, By 9 A. D. Club; Mission to Moscow, Warners.

We Editors sat hypnotized, magnetized, and electrified for 2 solid hours. See it (but, please, not on Tuesday night).

#### BELLES LETTERS

For them as reads mysteries—Johnny On the Spot, by Amen Dell. A swell mystery with a progressive slant. At your lending library.

#### PERSONAL INTELLIGENCE

No getting away from it—our guys are good. None of that nine-months stuff for us. We are accelerating to meet the new war tempo. Result—Ruth J. has a premature incubator baby! And is it tiny! And cute! Paula G. is beginning to knit tiny little sweaters and things . . . And that puffed up look about Anne M. ain't gas. And Dorothy, you look so beautiful these days. Which leads us into Mother's Day. Lots of mothers are separated from their sons this year. Quickest way to get them back is Lick Hitler Now. Second Front tables and petitions will be scattered along Broadway this Sunday to help bring about that Second Front.

#### MEDICAL

George Washington used to have himself bled regularly as a health measure. In those days they wasted blood. Today we save lives with it. We're going to give blood to the Red Cross—and each pint will save a life. You'll hear more about this at the next meeting. Those who are willing to start the blood rolling should be prepared to set the date. The entire Executive Committee is volunteering. Wanna come along?

#### LEGISLATION

The Dickstein Bill—The Lynch Bill.

Both would forbid Anti-Semitic, Anti-Negro material the use of the mails. We should push for the passage of both. Write Sol Bloom, House Office Bldg., Washington, D. C.

And while you're writing to Bloom it won't hurt to tell him of your disappointment at the negative results of the Bermuda Conference on Refugees, in which he participated.

#### NEXT MEETING

"What's Holding Up the Second Front?"—Prominent Speaker (can't announce the name). Good and Welfare Session. Mass Induction. Current Events Quizz. Tuesday, 8:30 P. M. May 11th, Hotel Newton. Be sure to bring your friends.

## BLAUVELT EXHIBIT No. 13

## NEWS OF THE NINTH

Issued by 9 A. D. Club Communist Party

## SPECIAL—FIRST OF TWO PRE-CONVENTION DISCUSSIONS

## SPECIAL

Tuesday night, May 25th, Hotel Newton, 8:30 P. M.

This is when we hammer out a line and a program to contribute to our State Committee. This is the place to raise your problems, express your opinions, report your activities, criticize yourself and your leadership.

Now is the time when you contribute your share in forming a program and policy for the coming year, and elect your delegates to take your program to the State Convention.

Here's Democratic Centralism in Action.

Come and Do Your Democratic Share.

Delegates to the Convention will be apportioned on the basis of dues payments through May. No one can be a delegate or vote if he is in bad standing. Therefore all dues should be paid up at once. If you can't come to the next meeting send your dues to Frank Asher, 425 Central Park West, N. Y. C., but be sure to put your name on it.

## IN RETROSPECT

Sam Barron, to quote one listener at our last meeting, gave "the clearest and best analysis of the current world situation I have ever heard." Sorry you were too busy to get there, if you missed it.

## LEGISLATION

The crystal ball tells ye editors that you haven't yet written about the Dickstein and Lynch Bills. Why not? Don't you want to curb anti-Semitism? At present the Bill is in the Committee on Postoffices and Post Roads. Congressman Burch, Chairman. Address House Office Bldg., Washington, D. C. Tell the Honorable Sir you want the Bill brought out on the floor for an open hearing.

Another valuable letter would be to Sol Bloom asking that he be sure to be on the floor of the House when the Anti-Poll Tax Bill comes up. He'll vote right if he's present. We've got to make sure he is.

## BONDS AND BLOOD

Get one—Give the other—Nuff said.

## POLITICAL

Did you know that the outlook for the United Nations has entered a new phase since the beginning of the month? Or have you been missing the Daily Worker? Keep up with important trends and movements by reading the paper and attending your Club meetings.

## A WORD TO THE WISE

You've probably noticed that the "Beat Japan First" diversionists are getting more vehement, despite Churchill's speech. Do you know all the answers to their falacious arguments? Do you know Reuther's role on the Labor Front? Dubinsky's? Well then f'Heavens sake—get the latest Communist and the Daily Worker. They'll teach ya.

## POISONAL

Ran out of baby news this week. How come, reporters? Blache and Florence who have been quite ill are now back on their feet again.

Our condolences to Judith on the untimely death of her father.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you tell the committee what Mr. Barron in the course of that speech had to say regarding John L. Lewis?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. You presented me with a copy of Earl Browder's speech made on May 7, 1943, which was 2 nights prior to that of Mr. Barron's speech. Did Mr. Barron's speech follow the line of Mr. Browder's speech on the question of repudiation of Mr. Lewis?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. That is right.

Mr. TAVENNER. I desire to offer that document in evidence and ask that it be marked "Blauvelt Exhibit No. 14," for identification purposes only, and to be made a part of the committee files.

Mr. WILLIS. It is so ordered.

Mr. TAVENNER. During this war period did any dispute arise within the Communist Party as to the change of the name of that organization?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Well, there was a change of name from the Communist Party to the Communist Political Association, which took place in the early part of 1944 whereby the Communist Party was more or less dissolved as the party and became the Communist Political Association. The Communist Political Association was in existence under that name for a period of about a year and then in the spring of 1945 the famous Duclos letter came into existence, and upon that letter and the party's decision that there should be a change in the policy of the party, discussion was conducted for a few months regarding the change in policy of the party from the Communist Political Association to the reconstitution of the Communist Party once again as a militant party. I do not know just how much detail you want on that.

Mr. TAVENNER. The committee has received considerable evidence regarding the Duclos letter and the effect of it.

Mr. SCHERER. Let the Duclos letter incident be restated for the record.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. The Duclos letter was a letter which had been written by Jacques Duclos, one of the high functionaries of the Communist Party in France. It was a criticism of the decision of the Communist Party of America to have dissolved itself as the Communist Party and to have conducted its activities in the name of the Communist Political Association. He felt that they had abandoned the true Marxist principles of the Communist Party by doing so, and this letter created quite a bombshell within party circles at the time it was made public.

There was a great deal of discussion regarding party policy and in the review of all this discussion it was brought out that Browder had led the party into an incorrect policy of revisionism and therefore the party should be reconstituted, that under Browder an incorrect policy of collaboration with capital had been followed and it was now found that this could not be done, that capitalism was reactionary and therefore the Communist Party had to resume its militant and vanguard role of organizing the working class and once again assuming its revolutionary tactics.

Mr. SCHERER. And if necessary to accomplish that to advocate the overthrowing of the capitalistic system by force and violence.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes, they went back to the concept of the principles of Marxism and Leninism, the revolutionary concept of the principles of Marx and Lenin.

Mr. SCHERER. Which carried with it force and violence if necessary.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. That is correct.

Mr. TAVENNER. You have presented to the staff 3 periodicals entitled: "Discussion Bulletin", issued by the New York State Committee of the Communist Political Association, which describe this change or this reorganization of the Communist Party.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. That is right.

Mr. TAVENNER. These bulletins contain articles written by numerous persons in the Communist Party on this subject, do they not?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. I desire to offer the 3 bulletins of June 26, 1945, July 3, 1945, and July 10, 1945 in evidence and ask that they be marked "Blauvelt Exhibits Nos. 15, 16 and 17", respectively, for identification purposes only, and to be made a part of the committee files.

Mr. WILLIS. It is so ordered.

Mr. TAVENNER. Tell us how many persons comprised the membership of the Flatbush Club of the Communist Party prior to its being broken down into smaller groups.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. It was supposed to have comprised I think, between 300 and 350 in its membership, at that particular time.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you identify for the committee, please, the geographical territory of the Ninth A. D. group of which you were a member, and the Flatbush group?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. The Ninth A. D. covered the area in the upper West Side of Manhattan, taking in I would say, the area of the West Nineties, West 90th street, that particular geographical area. The entire section I believe ran from some place in the Seventies up through part of the Hundreds.

I don't know whether that is clear to you or not. If you know what New York City is like, you probably will understand better what I am speaking about. That is about the best I can give you as an explanation of geographical location of the club.

Now the Flatbush Club comprised the area of the 21st A. D. in Brooklyn and there was also another club, a large club at that time which covered the 11th A. D. section, and at the time of reorganization in January 1946 the 2 clubs were merged into one section, Flatbush section, covering the 21st A. D. and the 11th A. D.

Mr. TAVENNER. What was the membership of the 11th A. D. Club, prior to its merger?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. I understand that also was something like 300, though I am not too sure about the actual count.

Mr. TAVENNER. Therefore you had those 2 sections in the same general area of Brooklyn?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. The Flatbush containing 350 members and the 11th A. D. possibly as many as 300.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you be able to identify many of those who were members of the Flatbush Club with you?

**Mrs. BLAUVELT.** Yes.

**Mr. WILLIS.** The committee will stand in recess until 2 o'clock.

(Whereupon, at 12:15 p. m., the committee was recessed, to reconvene at 2 p. m. the same day.)

AFTERNOON SESSION, MAY 3, 1955

**Mr. WILLIS** (presiding). The subcommittee will come to order.

Let the record show that present are myself and my colleague from Ohio, Mr. Scherer. The two members present being a quorum under our rules, will you proceed, Mr. Tavenner.

**TESTIMONY OF MRS. MILDRED BLAUVELT—Resumed**

**Mr. TAVENNER.** Mrs. Blauvelt, at the time of the recess we were discussing the Flatbush Club of the Communist Party. Will you name those persons whom you can, of your own knowledge, identify as members of the Communist Party within that group? I would like you to spell the names, please, so that the reporter will get them correctly.

**Mrs. BLAUVELT.** Yes, sir.

**Mr. TAVENNER.** May I ask you this: Are you able to give the correct spelling of these names, or will it be phonetic spelling in some instances?

**Mrs. BLAUVELT.** Some spellings will be the correct spelling of the person's name. In some instances it will be a strictly phonetic spelling. I have either heard the individual himself state his name, or I have heard him greeted by that name, but it still remains a phonetic spelling as far as I am concerned. I have prepared this in alphabetical order.

**Mr. TAVENNER.** May I make another statement? In identifying these individuals, will you also give any descriptive information you have as to their occupations and any information that might serve to identify them, as well as information regarding their activity within the group?

**Mrs. BLAUVELT.** Yes. If I am able to do so, I certainly will.

I have prepared this list alphabetically so that in the course of it we will come across some of the comrades who were the functionaries of the club and those that were most active. I will not point them out first, I will just include them in the alphabetical listing. [Reading:]

Irwin—also known as Bud—Abrams, A-b-r-a-m-s, 2113 East 47th Street. He was on the executive committee of the Flatbush Club for a time; and when I knew him, worked for the Everett Chair Co., 114 East 32d Street, New York City. He was a regular attender at party meetings.

Florence Abrams, whom I also heard identified as Chris, C-h-r-i-s, 2113 East 47th Street. She was the recording secretary of the Flatbush Club for a while.

Rose Akula, A-k-u-l-a; she was on the executive committee of the club and also active in the committee consumers council of Flatbush.

Bill Alexander—I first saw his name on a recruiting chart which I observed in headquarters of the Flatbush Club at 848 Flatbush Avenue. I later met him at meetings of the club.

Leo Auerbach, A-u-e-r-b-a-c-h. He used the party name of Arnold, A-r-n-o-l-d. Auerbach was a member of the school commission of the New York State Communist Party. He was an instructor in party schools and stated that he instructed a class for club executives and was instructor of a class in the painters' union; he was an instructor of Marxism in the World Today at the Flatbush Club. He also stated that he had been a member of the Communist Party since he was 16 years of age, when he joined the Young Communist League. He said

that he wrote leaflets and pamphlets for the Communist Party. He had been a teacher in the New York City school system who was dismissed after public trial.

Shirley Auerbach, also known as Wallach, was the literature director for the Flatbush section. She holds a license to teach in the New York City school system.

Harold Bakerman, B-a-k-e-r-m-a-n, stated that he was a lawyer, that he had been in the Communist Party for 10 years; this statement being made in 1945, and that he had held all positions in a party branch.

Sabina Bate, B-a-t-e. This is a strictly phonetical spelling. She was present at one of the meetings and had volunteered to do some work in one of the activities being conducted at the time.

Eileen Bernstein, B-e-r-n-s-t-e-i-n, whom I also heard addressed as Estelle. She was active in the club and attended many of its meetings.

Leo Bernstein—Leo Bernstein himself stated that he had joined the Communist Party about 1932, and that he was in the merchant marine or had been in the merchant marine, and had been in the American Communications Association in Washington.

Miriam Black, B-l-a-c-k, 415 East 17th Street, Brooklyn, N. Y., was the treasurer of the Flatbush Club. She stated that she worked in the Agriculture Department of the United States Government and that she was going to be transferred to the Treasury Department which was located on Vesey Street, V-e-s-e-y Street, New York City.

Ben Bloom, B-l-o-o-m, attended many meetings and stated that he was a member of the architects union.

Norman Bloom, B-l-o-o-m, who at one of the meetings volunteered to help in the press drive by getting subscriptions to the Worker.

Petsy Blom, B-l-o-m, 510 Ocean Avenue. She was recruited into the party by Alex Rosen in April of 1945. She became a member of the Women's Army Corps.

Sabina Bluman, B-l-u-m-a-n. She was present at one of the meetings where a petition, nominating petition for Peter V. Cacchione when he was running for re-election to the New York City Council, was circulated. This was in 1945. She signed one of those petitions.

Joe Burns, B-u-r-n-s. That is a phonetical spelling. He was in attendance at one of the meetings which I attended.

Arthur Bussie, B-u-s-s-i-e. His business address was 2518 Tilden Avenue. He was on the executive committee of the Flatbush Club. He was a delegate to the New York State Convention which was held on July 21 and 22 of 1945. That was the time of the reconstitution of the Communist Political Association to the Communist Party.

Mr. TAVENNER. Are you identifying these persons as members of the Communist Political Association or the Communist Party?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. They are being identified as members of the Flatbush Club from the time that I entered it in April of 1943 until the time that I left it, or rather at the time that I was transferred to the Parkside Club in January of 1946. Of course, during that interim, we do have the Flatbush Club known first as the Flatbush Club of the Communist Party, and then the Flatbush Club of the Communist Political Association, and then back again as the Flatbush Club of the Communist Party. I have not been able to make the distinction here just which period of time. If I gave dates, it will indicate at which period of time it was either the Communist Party or the Communist Political Association. [Reading:]

Bob Bussie, whose business address also was 2518 Tilden Avenue. He had been nominated as a delegate to the New York State convention in 1945 but had declined the nomination. He did attend some of the party club meetings.

Susie Bussie, who was the wife of Arthur Bussie. She was nominated to the county convention which was held in 1946.

Dorothy Cass, C-a-s-s. That would be phonetical, too, she pledged \$100 in the bond drive that was being held in the spring of 1944.

Frank Coghlan, C-o-g-h-l-a-n, 220 East 23d Street, who was a transfer from the Kings Highway branch into the Flatbush Club. He stated that he worked for the Pennsylvania Railroad.

**Mr. TAVENNER.** Was that in Brooklyn?

**Mrs. BLAUVELT.** Yes, sir, these will all be Brooklyn addresses, because it confines itself to the Brooklyn area. [Reading:]

Hy Cohen, H-y C-o-h-e-n had been discharged from the Army in the latter part of 1945 and attended some of the meetings at which I was present. He had held a license to teach in the New York City school system, but surrendered that license.

James Colton, C-o-l-t-o-n, 1191 Dorchester Road. He was on the executive committee of a club in the Flatbush section. He had at one time held a substitute license to teach in the New York City school system, but it had been vacated.

Herbert Cooper, 312 East 21st Street, was a member of the Flatbush Club and then became a member of the executive committee of the Flatbush section. I happened to see him in the May Day Parade of 1948.

Rose Cooper, R-o-s-e C-o-o-p-e-r, 312 East 21st Street; said that she worked in the publicity department of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare at 112 Park Avenue, New York city. She was one of the active members of the club.

Leon Dorsky, D-o-r-s-k-y was an active member in the Flatbush Club, and was a member of the Veterans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade. He was chairman of the Spanish Aid Committee which the Flatbush Club organized to assist the campaign of the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee.

Hy Druckman, D-r-u-c-k-m-a-n. At a meeting in December of 1945 he made a contribution to the collection that was being taken for the General Motors strikers.

Sylvia Elias, E-l-i-a-s, at a meeting held in December of 1945, volunteered to help in the press drive by getting subscriptions to the Worker.

Bernice Engel, E-n-g-e-l 280 East 21st Street, was on the executive committee of the Flatbush Club, and was a delegate to the county conference. She was a member of and chairman of the Flatbush Consumers Council. She said she was also a member of the PTA.

Thomas Erickson, E-r-i-c-k-s-o-n; he attended some meetings in the latter part of 1945, and was nominated as a delegate to the county convention being held in January of 1946.

Molly Feig, F-e-i-g. I saw her name on a recruiting chart which was in the Flatbush Club headquarters in connection with the recruiting drive being held in 1944, which is the time that I was recruited into the party.

Rebecca Fein, F-e-i-n. She joined the Communist Party at a meeting of the Flatbush Club which was held on April 17, 1945.

Abe Feingold, F-e-i-n-g-o-l-d 64 Sterling Street. He recruited me into the Communist Party. He was the educational director of the Flatbush Club at that time. He became vice president of the Flatbush Club when it was known as the Flatbush Club of the Communist Political Association. He stated that he had visited the Soviet Union in 1937 and that he had taken a State training course. He was an instructor of Communist Party classes within the Flatbush section.

**Mr. TAVENNER.** What do you mean by "State training course?"

**Mrs. BLAUVELT.** That would be a training course similar to the courses that I had taken on county and regional levels, and this would be one that was conducted on a State level. He was a teacher in the New York City school system who was dismissed after trial in 1950. [Reading:]

Ann Fierman, F-i-e-r-m-a-n; she was the educational director for the Flatbush Club for a while. She was a teacher in the New York City school system but she retired.

Harry Fierman, F-i-e-r-m-a-n, attended some meetings of the Flatbush Club. He had been a teacher in the New York City school system, but surrendered his license.

Isa Freeman, I-s-a F-r-e-e-m-a-n, was present at some meetings. He stated he was a draftsman and was a member of the architects union.

Julia Friedlander, F-r-i-e-d-l-a-n-d-e-r; at one of the meetings held in July of 1945 she volunteered to participate in the petition campaign that was being conducted for Peter V. Cacchione.

May Friedlander; the same information on her as on Julia Friedlander.

Lil Gellar, G-e-l-l-a-r; it might also be "e-r"; and it is questionable. At one of the meetings held in June of 1944 she pledged \$100 to the bond drive that was being conducted at that time.

Ilya Gill, I-l-y-a G-i-l-l-i. He attended meetings of the Flatbush Club, and at the time of the petition campaign being conducted for Peter V. Cacchione, volunteered to help in that campaign.

Sid Gluck; G-l-u-c-k. In November of 1944 he was credited with having recruited 54 new members into the Communist Party. He was supposed to have gone into the service in 1945. He was an instructor of the class on the Soviet Union which was held in the Flatbush Club, and in the fall of 1944 he was supposed to have gone to the Jefferson School of Social Science, New York, to do some instructing at that school.

Gloria Goldman, G-o-l-d-m-a-n, at one of the meetings in December of 1945, volunteered to help in the press drive by getting subscriptions to the Worker.

Rose Gollomb, G-o-l-l-o-m-b, 75 East 21st Street. Rose Gollomb once told me that she had been a former Government worker at the time of the Hatch Act. She was one of the people who went into the Parkside Club with me from the Flatbush Club and worked with me on the fund drive committee in the Parkside Club.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you know what type of Government position she held?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. No, that was the extent of her information.  
[Reading:]

Blanche Goodman, G-o-o-d-m-a-n; she attended meetings of the Flatbush Club, volunteered to help with the Cacchione petition campaign. I observed her in the May Day parade of 1946 marching with the millinery contingent.

Gerald Goodman, 250 Midwood Street, Brooklyn. He was literature director of the Flatbush Club, and acted as the executive secretary of the Flatbush Club for awhile. He stated that he was a member of the teachers' union and had been a member of the Young Socialist League prior to his association with the Communist Party and that he had joined the Communist Party in 1940. He had held a substitute license to teach in the New York City school system, but had surrendered that, I think, around 1944.

Judy Goodman was the recording secretary of the Flatbush Club for a while, and when the club broke up, upon its reorganization in the beginning of 1946, was placed in the youth group, being a member of the Joe Stember Youth Club. She worked as a secretary for the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America.

Isaac Goldenberg, G-o-l-d-e-n-b-e-r-g, attended many meetings of the Flatbush Club.

Florence Goldstein, G-o-l-d-s-t-e-i-n; she attended meetings of the Flatbush Club and was active in the CDVO work that was being conducted at that time.

Nathan Goldstein; he was the club's representative at the CDVO. He also attended meetings of the club.

Gloria Gould, G-o-u-l-d. I saw her name on a recruiting chart which the club had in its headquarters for the recruiting campaign—recruiting drive—held in 1944.

Shirley Gould; at one of the meetings held in July 1945, she volunteered to help in the Cacchione petition campaign.

Nelson Grant, G-r-a-n-t, was in attendance at several meetings of the Flatbush Club.

Sidney Green, G-r-e-e-n, 105 Lincoln Road; at one of the meetings he said to me that he hoped he could travel with what he called the arts and sciences caravan.

Leona Greenhill, G-r-e-e-n-h-i-l-l, 600 East 21st Street; when the Cacchione campaign began, to place Peter V. Cacchione on the ballot through the use of nominating petitions, she conducted that particular campaign.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you tell the committee, in a general way, what the Cacchione campaign was?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Well, in 1945 Peter V. Cacchione, who was the head of the Brooklyn Communist Party, was running for reelection to the New York City Council. He was running as an Independent but he

was running as a Communist, and he had to circulate petitions, nominating petitions, in which he designated his party affiliation as the Communist Party. We had to get the required number of signatures to place him on the ballot, and this was an intensive campaign during the summer of 1945 to place him on the ballot. [Reading:]

Marty Greenleaf, G-r-e-e-n-l-e-a-f. He attended a meeting of the Flatbush Club, at which I was in attendance.

Cecelia Grossman, G-r-o-s-s-m-a-n. She was nominated as a delegate to the county convention which was held in January of 1946.

Lillian Grossman. She herself said that she had been a member of the Communist Party since 1919, and that she was active in the Bedford-Stuyvesant section and was a member of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union.

Miriam Gruber, G-r-u-b-e-r, jointed the Flatbush Club at a meeting that was held on April 17, 1945.

Florence Haskell, H-a-s-k-e-l-l, 2323 Newkirk Avenue; she attended the class in principles of Marxism and also some meetings.

Esther Hirschfeld, H-i-r-s-c-h-f-e-l-d. She was a director of literature of the Flatbush Club for a time. She was a teacher in the New York City school system who was dismissed after trial.

Susan Jackson, J-a-c-k-s-o-n, was at one of the meetings held in August of 1944.

Estelle Jaffe, J-a-f-f-e, 87 Woodruff Avenue. She attended a meeting on September 20, 1944, at which time we were going to have a new class starting in just a matter of days. She signed up for the class at that time.

Hannah Jasper, J-a-s-p-e-r, 50 East 21st Street. She was on the executive board of the Flatbush Club, and was active in the Emma Lazarus division of the International Workers Order and financial secretary of Lodge 562, Jewish People's Fraternal Order.

Helen Johnson, J-o-h-n-s-o-n, 236 East 69th Street, Manhattan. She joined the Communist Party on April 4, 1944, and was recruited by Judy Goodman. She worked for the Pennsylvania Railroad, and stated that she was a member of the Railroad Brotherhood Union. She was transferred to a club at 347 East 72d Street, Manhattan, because she lived in that area, although she did attend meetings of the Flatbush Club for awhile.

Leonore Kahn, K-a-h-n, was at a meeting which I attended in June of 1944.

Phyllis Kantor, K-a-n-t-o-r: At a meeting held on April 17, 1945 she pledged \$25 to the party's fund drive.

Sigma, S-i-g-m-a, Kaufman, K-a-u-f-m-a-n: I saw her name on the recruiting chart which was in the headquarters of the Flatbush Club in connection with the recruiting drive being conducted in 1944.

Sally Kaye, K-a-y-e: She attended a class in principles of Marxism given by Abe Feingold.

Michael Kenton, K-e-n-t-o-n: He had been a serviceman, and was nominated as a delegate to the county convention to be held in January of 1946; his nomination being made by Nat Rosenbluth, the chairman of the Flatbush Club.

Rena Klein, R-e-n-a K-le-i-n: Attended meetings and participated in canvassing for the American Labor Party.

Helen Koel, K-o-e-l, that is a strictly phonetic spelling: Attended meetings of the Flatbush Club.

Eugene Kovacs, K-o-v-a-c-s: His name appeared on the recruiting chart which the Flatbush Club had in its headquarters for the drive being conducted in 1944.

(Mr. Doyle entered the room and Mr. Scherer left.)

Mr. TAVENNER. You have mentioned the recruiting chart several times. Did that chart show the names of persons who had been recruited or the names of persons engaged in recruiting?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. These were the names of the members of the club who had been successful in recruiting members into the Communist Party, and they were being credited with having recruited new members into the party. [Reading:]

Jerry, J-e-r-r-y, Kroll, K-r-o-l-l, that is a strictly phonetic spelling: He had been a serviceman, and on December 5, 1945 at a meeting of the Flatbush Club,

volunteered to help in the press drive that was being conducted at that time. He was nominated as a delegate to the county convention in 1946.

Marion Kroll, K-r-o-l-l: Attended meetings.

Lucille Kuttner, K-u-t-t-n-e-r, 63 Fenimore Street: On May 31, 1944, at a meeting of the Flatbush Club, she volunteered to serve on a committee to see what could be done about providing recreational facilities for children and for securing a housing project in the Flatbush section. She had at one time held a license to teach in the school system, but had surrendered it.

Manny Lanser, M-a-n-n-y L-a-n-s-e-r: He became organizer of the Flatbush section upon reorganization of the Flatbush Club in 1946. He had been a serviceman, and he was a member of the Veterans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade.

Mildred, also known as Mickey, M-i-c-k-e-y, Lanser: While Manny had been in service she contributed \$25 to the fund drive and pledged his next allotment check as a further contribution. She was active in club activities.

Florence Lepowsky L-e-p-o-w-s-k-y: Attended many meetings of the Flatbush Club. She held a license to teach in the New York City school system but surrendered that license.

Robert Lepowsky, or Bob as he was usually called: He was an instructor of classes in the Flatbush Club. He held a license to teach in the New York City school system but surrendered that license.

Inez Lester, L-e-s-t-e-r: At a meeting of the Flatbush Club held on December 11, 1945, she was nominated as a delegate to visit Congressman Heffernan in connection with the Government's foreign policy, and she was so nominated because her husband was still overseas.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was that an instance in which the Communist Party was expressing opposition to the administration's foreign policy?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes, for instance at that time they were opposed to what they called intervention in China, and it was that type of foreign policy which they were protesting. [Reading:]

Sally Levin, L-e-v-i-n: At a meeting held on July 24, 1945, she volunteered to assist in the Cacchione petition campaign.

Sarah Levin, S-a-r-a-h L-e-v-i-n: At this same meeting she also volunteered to help in the Cacchione petition campaign.

Florence Levine, L-e-v-i-n-e: Attended many of the meetings of the Flatbush Club and was a member of the Parkside Club later with me, where she was membership director.

Paula Levowin, L-e-v-o-w-i-n, that is a strictly phonetical spelling: Paid dues at a meeting on October 18, 1945.

Matty Lief, L-i-e-f, that is phonetical: Attended meetings at which I was present.

Dorothy Liff, L-i-f-f, 50 Lefferts Avenue: She was transferred with me from the Flatbush Club to the Parkside Club and then from there to the Lincoln Road Club with me, and while in the Lincoln Road Club was assigned as a representative of the Lincoln Road Club to the Civil Rights Congress chapter in Flatbush.

Murray Liff, L-i-f-f 50 Lefferts Avenue: Attended meetings of the Flatbush Club.

Mr. TAVENNER. When you speak of clubs, are you referring to clubs of the Communist Party?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. That is right; yes, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. And when you are referring to persons having attended meetings with you, are you referring to Communist Party meetings?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes, in this instance it would be meetings of the Flatbush Club of the Communist Party. [Reading:]

Sylvia Manning, M-a-n-n-i-n-g: On January 9, 1945, at a meeting of the Flatbush Club, she was nominated to the elections committee. She was also supposed to assist in manning a booth to advertise a rally of the Americans United for World Organization and the Citizens Political Action Committee at Erasmus Hall High School which was held on December 6, 1945.

Helen Miller, M-i-l-l-e-r; her name might be Ellen: At a meeting of the Flatbush Club held on July 24, 1945, volunteered to help in the Cacchione petition campaign.

Lil Miller, M-i-l-l-e-r: L-i-l, on June 25, 1945, at a meeting of the Flatbush Club, volunteered to help with American Labor Party petitions for the forthcoming primaries.

Mike Millner, M-i-k-e M-i-l-l-n-e-r: Had been the former chairman of the Flatbush Club before entering the Navy, and at a meeting of the Flatbush Club which was held on September 20, 1945, Abe Feingold introduced him as such, and at that time he was a radioman, second class.

Bessie Mleoz, M-l-e-o-z: At a meeting of the Flatbush Club held on July 24, 1945, signed a Cacchione nominating petition.

Jack Mogolescu, M-o-g-o-l-e-s-c-u-e: Had been nominated to attend the State convention of the Communist Party being held in July of 1945, at the time of the reconstitution of the Communist Political Association to the Communist Party. He also worked on the committee of the club which was helping to organize the rally held on December 6, 1945, by Americans United for World Organization.

Louis Mogolescu, M-o-g-o-l-e-s-c-u-e: This name was on the recruiting chart which I observed in the headquarters of the Flatbush section during the recruiting drive of 1944.

Kay Montaigne, K-a-y M-o-n-t-a-i-g-n-e, 485 Ocean Avenue: She said she worked for the Electric Bond & Share Co. at 2 Rector Street, New York City. She attended the class in principles of Marxism which I attended in the Flatbush Club.

Anna E. Morganstern, M-o-r-g-a-n-s-t-e-r-n, 409 Parkside Avenue: She was transferred with me to the Parkside Club where she became its secretary for a while and then its treasurer. She also became financial secretary of the Flatbush section. She stated that she worked in the Federal service.

Stacia Morell, S-t-e-c-i-a M-o-r-e-l-l, 185 Erasmus Street: She was an active member of the Flatbush Club, and recruited many members into the party.

Ted Morell, 185 Erasmus Street: He was considered the ace recruiter of the Flatbush Club. He was a member of the executive board of the Flatbush Club and at the time of reorganization of the large Flatbush Club, he went into the Freedom Road Club where he became chairman. He was the press director for the Flatbush section, and had an accounting office at 66 Court Street.

Charles Nemeroff, N-e-m-e-r-o-f-f. He was a member of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, Needle Trades Union Local 10. He stated that he had entered the United States in 1910, and according to his own statement, he was a charter member of the Communist Party in 1919 and had been a Socialist before that time.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you learn anything about the time of his naturalization?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. No, sir, I did not. [Reading:]

Harry Nemeroff, N-e-m-e-r-o-f-f, an active member in the Flatbush Club. He was a delegate to the Daily Worker Advisory Council. He was very persistent in attempting to sell Daily Workers at the beginning of every meeting.

Reva Nemeroff, N-e-m-e-r-o-f-f, was a member of the executive committee of the Flatbush Club, and active in Russian war relief.

Ray Newman, R-a-y N-e-w-m-a-n, 477 East 21st Street. It was at a meeting on November 13, 1945, that he volunteered to help Abe Feingold in connection with the December 6, 1945, rally being held by the Americans United for World Organization.

Sylvia Pakin, P-a-k-i-n. She assisted also in activity regarding this particular rally being held on December 6, 1945, in the name of the Americans United for World Organization. She also assisted in the collection of food for the General Motors strikers.

Leo Peisner, P-e-i-s-n-e-r. This name appeared on the recruiting chart in the Flatbush Club at the time of its recruiting drive in 1944.

Roslyn Perla, R-o-s-l-y-n P-e-r-l-a. The meeting of the Flatbush Club held on August 8, 1944, was stated as being her second meeting in the Communist Party.

Oscar Price, P-r-i-c-e. He used the party name of Pierce, P-i-e-r-c-e. He lived at 310 Lenox Road. He was chairman of the war activities committee, which the Flatbush Club had organized during the war.

Rhoda Price, who also used the party name of Pierce, P-i-e-r-c-e, living at 310 Lenox Road, also active in connection with the war activities of the club.

Dorothy Platt, P-l-a-t-t, 1701 Albemarle Road. She went to another club in the Flatbush section after its reorganization where she became a member of the executive committee.

Jim Popper, P-o-p-p-e-r—that is strictly a phonetical spelling—on January 9, 1945, at a meeting of the Flatbush Club he was nominated to the executive committee.

Ann Rivlin, R-i-v-l-i-n, 130 Fenimore Street. She was also known as Goldberg. She was transferred from the Flatbush Club to the Parkside Club with me. She attended many of the meetings at the Flatbush Club.

John Rogers, R-o-g-e-r-s; he was one of the members also, who was transferred with me to the Parkside Club. He attended many of the meetings and in the fund drive which started in 1946, he pledged \$25.

Alex Rosen, R-o-s-e-n, was editor of the club bulletin which was prepared by the Flatbush Club. He was on the executive committee of the Flatbush Club and recruited Betsy Blom into the party. Alex Rosen was a teacher but subsequently retired.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did that club bulletin have a name?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. I believe it had just the title that appears on there; "Community." Perhaps one of the others would show it a little better. [Reading:]

Harold Rosenberg, R-o-s-e-n-b-e-r-g, 2604 Bedford Avenue. He assisted in the American Labor Party petition campaign in 1945 and also assisted with the December 6, 1945, rally being held in the name of the Americans United for World Organization.

Nat Rosenberg, at a meeting of the club held on December 11, 1945, volunteered to help in the press drive by securing subscriptions. He was transferred with me to the Parkside Club.

Elsie Rosenbluth, R-o-s-e-n-b-l-u-t-h, 174 Woodruff Avenue; she was on the executive committee of the Flatbush Club. She was also a member of the Flatbush consumers council.

Nat Rosenbluth, 174 Woodruff Avenue; he was the chairman of the Flatbush Club, and upon its reorganization, or the reorganization of the party, which took place in January of 1946, became the section organizer which included both the 21st and 11th A. D. Clubs and was known as the Flatbush section.

Judith Rosenfeld, R-o-s-e-n-f-e-l-d; on January 9, 1945, at a meeting of the Flatbush Club, was nominated to the executive committee because of her affiliation with the American Youth for Democracy.

Jean Rothman, R-o-t-h-m-a-n; she was elected to the elections committee, and did attend meetings of the Flatbush Club.

Isadore Rubin, R-u-b-i-n. In March of 1945 while he was in the Army in Italy, he sent \$10 to the party's fund drive. Upon his return from service, he did attend some of the meetings of the Flatbush Club. Now, there was a club bulletin issued under date of November 28, 1944, which gave his name and listed his address as 1030 Ocean Avenue, with the notation that he was the winner of an essay contest which had been conducted while he was in the Army. Isadore Rubin was a teacher in the New York City school system who was dismissed in 1951, after trial.

I did read some testimony which he had presented to the Senate Committee on Internal Security in September of 1952. At that time he gave his address as 20 Rugby Road, and it was in connection with the teachers union, I believe, that these hearings were being held; and I was particularly interested in reading the testimony because he invoked the privilege of the fifth amendment concerning his Communist affiliations.

Mr. TAVENNER. I have before me the April 23, 1955 issue of New York Teacher News, and apparently published by the Teachers Union of New York.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. That is correct.

**Mr. TAVENNER.** I notice the name of the editor appears on the editorial board and staff of this issue. Will you examine this issue and state what you see to be the name of the editor?

**Mrs. BLAUVELT.** The name of the editor is Isadore Rubin.

**Mr. TAVENNER.** Is that the same person to whom you have referred?

**Mrs. BLAUVELT.** Yes, sir.

**Mr. TAVENNER.** As having been known to you as a member of the Communist Party?

**Mrs. BLAUVELT.** Yes, sir, it is the same person.

**Mr. TAVENNER.** I desire to offer in evidence that part of page 2 of the issue of April 23, 1955, of the New York Teachers News which indicates the editorial staff; ask that it be marked "Blauvelt Exhibit No. 18," and that it be incorporated in the transcript of the record.

**Mr. DOYLE.** It is so ordered.

(The exhibit referred to is as follows:)

**BLAUVELT EXHIBIT NO. 18**

**NEW YORK TEACHER NEWS**

206 W. 15 St., New York 11—WA 4-5524

Published weekly except July and August and weeks of certain holidays by Union Publications, Inc., at 206 W. 15 St., New York 11, N. Y. Reentered as second class matter December 30, 1943, at the Post Office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 8, 1879. Subscription \$1 a year—5c a copy.

Vol. XV, No. 29—April 23, 1955

ISADORE RUBIN, EDITOR

Editorial Board: Abraham Lederman, Rose Russell.

Staff: Edward Herbst, Stella Eliashow, David Flacks, Eugene Jackson, Esther Rothman

Staff Photographer: Mildred Grossman

Harold Schor, Advertising Mgr. Abraham Squire, Circulation Mgr.

**THE TEACHERS UNION OF NEW YORK**

Notify us immediately when moving. Please include mailing label for information thereon in all your correspondence with Circulation Department. If we know your "check letters" on your mailing label, we can serve you more promptly and efficiently.

**Mrs. BLAUVELT (reading):**

Phyllis Rubin, R-u-b-i-n, was active in the Flatbush Club and attended many of its meetings.

Rhoda Rudbarg, R-h-o-d-a R-u-d-b-a-r-g; an active member of the Flatbush Club, attending its meetings.

Sid Ryan, R-y-a-n—and that is a strictly phonetical spelling. At a meeting of the Flatbush Club, on July 24, 1945, volunteered to assist in the Cacchione petition campaign.

Elsa Schaefer, E-l-s-a S-c-h-a-e-f-e-r; her name appeared on the recruiting chart which the club had in its headquarters in connection with the recruiting drive of 1944.

Vivian Schlessel, S-c-h-l-e-s-s-e-l. That is a phonetical spelling. She was nominated as a delegate to the county convention being held in January of 1946.

Doris Schlesser, S-c-h-l-e-s-s-e-r, and that is the way I heard it pronounced. I assume you would call it phonetical. At a meeting of the Flatbush Club on July 24, 1945, volunteered to assist in the Cacchione petition campaign. She had joined the party at a meeting held on April 17, 1945.

Janet Secundy, J-a-n-e-t S-e-c-u-n-d-y. She was an active member in the Flatbush Club, and at the time of the reorganization in January of 1946, went into another club where she eventually became an executive member.

Louis Secundy, 530 East 22d Street. He was a member of the Veterans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade. He had been nominated as a delegate to the State

convention being held in 1945, regarding the reconstitution of the Communist Political Association to the Communist Party. In stating his qualifications at that time he stated that he had just been made chairman of an industrial branch of the Communist Party.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you know in what industrial branch of the Communist Party Mr. Secundy was a member?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. He said that it was a newly organized industrial branch and that it included some of the top functionaries of the party and that Rose Wortis was one of the members of the branch. He did not go into any more detail. [Reading:]

Helen Seligman, S-e-l-i-g-m-a-n, was on the executive committee of the Flatbush Club and was also a member of the American Labor Party.

Blanche Shapiro, S-h-a-p-i-r-o, attended meetings of the Flatbush Club. Her husband was in the service, and she contributed \$20 to the fund drive which she had received from him while he was still in the service.

Shep Sherman, S-b-e-r-m-a-n, attended meetings of the Flatbush Club at which I also was present.

Abe Shtabe, S-h-t-a-b-e; and that is a phonetical spelling. He had been a serviceman, and he did attend some of the meetings of the Flatbush Club. He made the statement that he was a member of the furriers' union.

Dorothy Shtabe. She was a member of the executive committee of the Flatbush Club.

Harry Silverstein, S-i-l-v-e-r-s-t-e-i-n, also known as Henry, attended meetings of the Flatbush Club.

Mildred Silverstein attended meetings of the Flatbush Club.

Mike Singer, S-i-n-g-e-r, 440 East 23d Street. He was a member of the Daily Worker staff, and did attend meetings of the Flatbush Club.

Gina Slade, G-i-n-a S-l-a-d-e: on January 9, 1945, she was nominated for the vice presidency and also nominated to be secretary of membership and personnel of the Flatbush Club. She had had a license to teach in the school system at one time, but surrendered that license.

Roslyn Sperling, R-o-s-l-y-n S-p-e-r-l-i-n-g. She attended meetings of the club, and at the particular meeting held on December 11, 1945, volunteered to help in the press drive by securing subscriptions to the Worker.

Abie Squire, S-q-u-i-r-e, attended meetings of the Flatbush Club, and was a teacher in the New York City school system, who was dismissed after trial.

Mr. TAVENNER. I would like to again call your attention, to exhibit No. 18, which is the April 23, 1955, issue of the New York Teacher News. Will you examine it again and state whether the name of Abraham Squire is listed on its staff?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes, the name of Abraham Squire is listed here as the circulation manager.

Mr. TAVENNER. He is the same Abraham Squire to whom you referred?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes, sir, he is.

Mr. WILLIS. Is that New York City or New York State?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. New York City. [Reading:]

There was also a Sophie Tobin, T-o-b-i-n, who at a meeting of the club on September 20, 1944, contributed to the fund drive.

Bella Vankin, V-a-n-k-i-n, whose name I saw on the recruiting chart which was in the headquarters of the Flatbush Club at the time of the recruiting drive held in 1944.

Blanche Vitrogen, V-i-t-r-o-g-e-n; and that would be phonetical. She was placed in the Cortelyou Club, C-o-r-t-e-l-y-o-u, later on. I did see her after my association in the Flatbush Club at one of the section meetings of the section held on March 21, 1946.

Dave Vitrogen, V-i-t-r-o-g-e-n, stated that he had been a former Government employee and that he had joined the Communist Party in 1935.

Carrie Wagner, W-a-g-n-e-r, attended meetings of the Flatbush Club.

Monroe Wagner was nominated as a delegate to the county convention held in January of 1946.

Ruth Wang, of 150 Lefferts Avenue, an active member in the Flatbush Club. She was the executive secretary of the Flatbush Club, and was transferred into the Parkside Club with me, where she was on its executive committee, and also to the Lincoln Road Club, where she was on its executive committee. She did become the membership director of the Flatbush section. In July of 1945 she made the statement that she had been in the Communist Party for 8 years.

Joe Weeden, W-e-e-d-e-n; attended meetings and he was a CIO organizer.

Esther Weinberg, W-e-i-n-b-e-r-g, at the meeting of the Flatbush Club on December 11, 1945, volunteered to assist in the press drive by securing subscriptions to the Worker.

Eva Weiness, W-e-i-n-l-e-s-s, was at one of the meetings held in December of 1945, and in January of 1946 was nominated to the county convention which was being held that month.

Charlotte Weiss, W-e-i-s-s; attended one of the meetings, I remember the one held on October 18, 1945.

Jerry Weltfish, W-e-l-t-f-i-s-h. He was on the executive board of the Flatbush Club. He was a chiropodist by profession. He said he had joined the Communist Party in 1937. He was a campaign manager and cochairman of the American Labor Party in the Flatbush section, and ran in the American Labor Party primary, or rather he ran on the American Labor Party primary ticket for the New York State Assembly in 1946.

**Mr. TAVENNER.** Was he elected?

**Mrs. BLAUVELT.** No, sir. [Reading:]

Belle, B-e-l-l-e, Weltfish attended meetings of the club.

Matty Wishner, W-i-s-h-n-e-r, attended meetings of the club.

Pete Wallman, P-e-t-e W-a-l-l-m-a-n, 1555 Nostrand Avenue; attended meetings of the Flatbush Club. He was a veteran, and became the head of the Veterans' Committee to Reelect Cacchione.

Natalie Wallman, at 1555 Nostrand Avenue; she attended meetings of the club.

Ada Zazza, Z-a-z-z-a, and that is strictly a phonetical spelling. At a meeting of the Flatbush Club held on October 3 of 1944 she was instructed to report at American Labor Party headquarters to participate in their activity being conducted at that time.

Yetta Zidl, Z-i-d-l, and that is a strictly phonetical spelling. She was in attendance at a meeting on January 23, of 1945.

Max Zimmerman, Z-i-m-m-e-r-m-a-n. On May 25 of 1944 he was present at a class which was being held at the headquarters of the Flatbush Club, and had come for the particular reason of paying his dues to Ruth Wang, of the section committee.

**Mr. TAVENNER.** Mrs. Blauvelt, you indicated to me during the recess that you may have omitted the identification of one name this morning. Have you given us that name in the course of this?

**Mrs. BLAUVELT.** No, I have not. If you wish it, I could give it to you now.

**Mr. TAVENNER.** Would you do so, please?

**Mrs. BLAUVELT.** That was Minna Bodenheim, M-i-n-n-a B-o-d-e-n-h-e-i-m. 158 West 99th Street, New York City. She was a member of my group, the group of which I was the group captain. She informed me that she was a clerk in the Department of Welfare of New York City.

**Mr. TAVENNER.** Was that in the Ninth A. D. Group?

**Mrs. BLAUVELT.** Yes.

**Mr. TAVENNER.** You have made available to the staff a number of issues of a bulletin entitled "Flatbush Community," which was published by the Flatbush Club of the Communist Political Association. Was that paper also published by the Communist Party?

**Mrs. BLAUVELT.** No, sir.

**Mr. TAVENNER.** Was it published only by the Communist Political Association?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes, sir, and at the time of the reconstitution of the Communist Party in the summer of 1945, this bulletin was discontinued.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Chairman, I desire to offer in evidence the issues of the Flatbush Community of May 16, 1944, and June 13, 1944, June 27, 1944, July 11, 1944, July 25, 1944, August 8, 1944, September 5, 1944, September 20, 1944, October 3, 1944, October 31, 1944, November 28, 1944, December 12, 1944, December 26, 1944, January 9, 1945, January 23, 1945, February 6, 1945, February 20, 1945, March 6, 1945, March 20, 1945, April 3, 1945, and April 17, 1945, and ask that they be marked "Blauvelt Exhibit No. 19" for identification purposes only, and to be made a part of the committee files.

Mr. DOYLE. It is so ordered.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do these publications, Flatbush Community, as was the procedure in the Ninth A. D. Club, make reference to the members of the club by their first names and sometimes by initials?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. In this particular group I would say that even some were mentioned by their full names.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you examine these documents, and using them as a basis for your discussion, tell the committee briefly what activities of the Flatbush group are dealt with in those articles?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Well, this issue of May 16, 1944, refers to Ted and Stacia Morell as ace recruiters, that Ted Morell had already 10 recruits to his credit, and announces that classes are to be conducted at the club, 1 in American Traditions and 1 in Marxism Today.

Most of these articles do reflect some activity being conducted at that time, but do you want that in detail?

Mr. TAVENNER. No; only the outstanding activities of the club.

Mrs. BLAUVELT (reading) :

The June 13, 1944, issue reflects that a class on the Soviet Union is going to start very shortly and that there is going to be a class on Marxism in the Teheran period. It also refers to the Consumers Council, urging the members to become active in consumers' work and Consumers Council, and part of it says, "Why not start such a council in your immediate neighborhood? Get in touch with Mrs. Bernice Engel, 280 East 21st Street, chairman of the Flatbush Consumers Council." Mrs. Bernice Engel was a member of the Flatbush Club.

The June 27, 1944, issue announces that Mike Gold of the Daily Worker staff is speaking at the club on June 28 and concerns itself with war bonds, for instance.

In the July 11, 1944, issue there is the announcement that Elizabeth Gurley Flynn will speak at the club in the near future, and also it relates some incidents about working for the American Labor Party.

The July 25, 1944, issue announces that Elizabeth Gurley Flynn is to speak at the club on August 16. It also announces that Peter V. Cacchione had spoken at an open-air meeting on July 12, and that 1 new member had been recruited as a result of that meeting.

The August 8, 1944, issue concerns itself with the press to some degree, and it reads:

"Read the Daily Worker every day and get at least one new reader. Ask the newsdealer to display it and volunteer to canvass exreaders for subscription renewals."

The September 5, 1944, issue reports on Elizabeth Gurley Flynn's speech at the club of August 16 on What Teheran Means to Women.

The September 20, 1944, issue reflects that courses are to be given at the Jefferson School which the comrades should attend, and also announces that the party is holding a meeting at Madison Square Garden on September 28.

The October 3, 1944, issue states that two courses are to be held at the club in Marxism in the World Today, and the Negro in the World Today; and that teachers are to be supplied by the school commission of the New York State Communist Political Association.

It also reports that Dave Goldway, who was State educational director of the party, spoke at a meeting on September 20.

The October 31, 1944, issue announces that a class is being conducted at the club entitled, "Marxism in the World Today," at which Leo Auerbach is to be the instructor. It also announces that on November 5 a forum is to be held at which Joseph Starobin, foreign editor of the Daily Worker, is to be a speaker.

The November 28, 1944, issue announces in its educational calendar that a class in Marxism in the World Today is being conducted on November 30; and that beginning with December 1, Margaret Cowl, also known as Margaret Krumbein, was giving a class on Women and the Postwar; and there was to be a forum of, What Is Behind the Liberal Party? on December 1.

The December 12, 1944, issue reports on Dave Goldway having spoken on An Analysis of the 1944 Elections. It gives an educational calendar; for instance, that Max Gordon is going to speak on What's Behind the Liberal Party? that Joseph Starobin is going to speak on What To Do With Germany, and that Doxey Wilkerson is going to speak on the New Emancipation Proclamation.

This issue also contains an article on Abe Feingold.

The December 26, 1944, issue mentions that Sadie Shatkin, who was also described by name as Duroshkin, was to speak at the club.

This also gave an educational calendar that Starobin was to speak at the club on January 12 and that Sam Kantor, manager of the United Electrical local was to speak on How to Create 60 Million Jobs for Americans, and on February 9, Doxey Wilkerson was to speak on a New Emancipation Proclamation.

The January 9, 1945, issue reports that Dave Rosenberg was guest speaker at the meeting of December 26, 1945, in connection with the CIO and AFL conventions, giving the contrast between them and their political significance.

The March 6, 1945, issue announces that Pete Cachione is to speak at the next meeting and that the fund drive has started, \$200,000 being the goal.

The March 20, 1945, issue announces that the Flatbush Club, in the fund drive—out of its quota is \$3,000—the club is to keep \$1,500 to use for the Cachione elections, and the county gets \$1,500 to use in borowide activity.

The April 3, 1945, issue concerns itself with fund raising activities. Also, it asks for help in organizing a mass rally at Erasmus Hall High School on April 25 in support of the San Francisco U. N. Conference. It announces that the Reverend Eliot White is to speak at the club on April 13.

The April 17, 1945, issue reports that Betsy Blom who had just joined the club was now entering the WACS.

That about concludes the Flatbush community bulletins; while there was nothing very outstanding about these issues, they do reflect what the Communist Party was doing at that time.

Mr. TAVENNER. You identified a person by the name of Miriam Black, who was a member of the Flatbush Club, and in the course of your statement you referred to her having worked in the Agriculture Department of the United States Government and then transferred to the Treasury Department in Vesey Street, New York. Can you give us any further identifying facts regarding the nature of her work and the nature of the position she held?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. No; I do not know anything more than that. That is a statement that she herself made to me regarding the type of work that she was doing. She did live with her mother at the address that I gave, and her mother's name was Tettelbaum; now whether or not Miriam Black was a party name and Tettelbaum was her proper name, I do not know, but she was known only to me by the name of Miriam Black.

Mr. TAVENNER. What was the approximate date of the discussion she held with you when she admitted the type of her former employment?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Well, I could not give you the specific date at this particular moment, but it would have been approximately sometime in the latter part of 1944 or sometime in 1945.

Mr. WILLIS. Did you lose track of her then, or did you continue to know her as a member of the Communist Party up to 1951?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. After the reorganization of the Flatbush section in January of 1946, I did lose contact with some of these people whom I had known in the Flatbush Club proper. She did go into other clubs, and I don't recall any specific instance after that except that I probably did see her at some of the section meetings following that reorganization. So that I might not have seen her much after sometime in 1946.

Mr. WILLIS. As you understood it, was she working for the Federal Government but stationed in New York?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes, sir, and I understood her to state, it was in New York.

Mr. DOYLE. The committee will stand in recess for 5 minutes.

(Brief recess.).

Mr. DOYLE. Let us resume.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mrs. Blauvelt, in addition to the various activities of the two groups of the Communist Party of which you were a member, were you also required to do work in selling the Daily Worker or the Sunday Worker?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Oh, yes. That was one of the requirements on the part of the membership.

Press drives were held regularly and in those press drives the comrades were instructed to secure subscriptions to the Worker. During those press drives, "mobilizations" would be held, many times on a weekly basis, in order to canvass with the paper, in order to secure new readers for it and possible subscribers to the paper, with the ultimate idea of drawing them into the party through reading the paper.

Mobilizations were almost continuous so far as canvassing with the Daily Worker was concerned.

Mr. TAVENNER. The daily life of a member of these groups was a very busy affair, wasn't it?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. It most certainly was. To be an active Communist you really did give a great deal of your time to it, and your life, actually.

Mr. TAVENNER. You have told us that the size of the Flatbush Club numerically was approximately 350 until it was reorganized.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. That is correct.

Mr. TAVENNER. What was the actual date of its reorganization.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Actually it was announced at a club meeting on December 5, 1945, that the club would be reorganized. Nat Rosenbluth, the chairman, spoke about this particular reorganization and he brought out the fact that the club must acquaint the members of the community with the facts about China, Indonesia, Palestine, and the roles the Truman administration and monopoly capitalism were playing. He said the comrades must work in mass organizations such as the American Labor Party, International Workers Order, Political Action Committee and consumer councils, and in order to become a better working and closely knit organization to perform the task of mobilizing the workers, a part of the reconstitution of the Brooklyn Communist Party would take the form of a new organizational setup whereby the large Communist clubs would be broken up into several small ones.

The county committee had proposed that the Flatbush Club which had a membership of about 350 be divided into 4 clubs with 75 to 100 members each. And one of these clubs was to be a youth club. The youth club to function the same as the adult Communist Party clubs in its procedure, policies, and activities. The comrades were to be members of the clubs covering the areas in which they lived. Now, there was also to be a further organizational change in the county which would mean that the reestablishment of sections would take place so that there would be mainly several clubs in a section under the direction of a section committee, section executive staff.

Now in the Flatbush setup the Flatbush section was to comprise the 21st A. D. and the 11th A. D. The 11th A. D. covered the area which had formerly been the area of the large Parkside Club of which we spoke before. The sections and the clubs were to have four officers each, a chairman, a secretary-treasurer, educational director and a press director.

Also there were to be two full-time organizers in the county, one in Greenpoint and the other in the Red Hook section because the population in these areas was completely working class and therefore warranting such organization.

In the Flatbush section what actually resulted was that nine clubs were formed, the Prospect Park Club, the Parkside Club, Flatbush Club, Farragut Club, Albemarle Club, the Theodore Dreiser Club, Joe Stember, Freedom Road and Glenwood.

The Parkside Club of which I became a member held its first meeting on January 22, 1946. We had a membership of 90 members at that time and we were divided into 6 groups; the groups meeting on alternate Tuesdays, in addition to the regular membership meeting which was also held on a Tuesday night.

Abe Feingold, who had been transferred into the Parkside Club, gave as the reasons and purposes for the reorganization of these two large Flatbush and Parkside Clubs into smaller groups, the fact that small units were needed to activate every member of the party and the comrades would be in a better position to reach a greater number of people in their own communities on the issues of the day under such organization.

He stated that the Communist Party had a membership of 6,000 at that time and it was considered the largest in the United States, and therefore it was up to the Communists in Brooklyn to set the pace.

**Mr. WILLIS.** Six thousand in the city of New York?

**Mrs. BLAUVELT.** No: the Communist Party in Brooklyn was supposed to have a membership of 6,000.

**Mr. DOYLE.** You mentioned youths. What ages were included in the term "youth" in the Communist Party?

**Mrs. BLAUVELT.** Most of the youth were in their late teens. Some of them might have been in their early twenties. Usually in a youth group you would have an adult member to more or less give them guidance. That was the usual policy that was followed in the maintenance of these youth clubs.

**Mr. DOYLE.** How numerous was the membership in the youth clubs with which you were familiar?

**Mrs. BLAUVELT.** I do not really know what the membership was in this Joe Stember group but, of course, based on the figures of the

breakage into numerical numbers it must have been, I would say, roughly maybe 50. I could be wrong on that. I really do not want to be confined to that figure but I would say that based on what was happening at that time in the Flatbush section it might have been about that.

Mr. DOYLE. What sort of adult person did they put with the youth groups? What were the factors which made them choose the adult leader?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Usually somebody who was advanced politically to know how to transfer Marxist theory to these youth members and how to apply it to the issues of the day in having the youth conduct certain activities, whatever they might happen to be at the moment.

Mr. DOYLE. What would be the lowest age of membership in the adult group? Would there be any in their late teens or early twenties, say 21?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. I found that some of them were in their early twenties in the adult group.

Mr. TAVENNER. When you were told that the Communist Party of Brooklyn consisted of 6,000 members, were you given any figure as to the membership of the entire New York area at that time?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. I don't recall offhand now what that figure was but there was some figure. I could probably locate it if you wish to bring it up at some other time. I can probably go through figures on the organization of the party. Offhand I do not know, just at the moment.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was the breaking up of these two larger groups into smaller groups for purposes of security?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes, it was. Of course many of the explanations were that the large groups when they comprised a membership of 300 were unwieldy so far as activating all the membership.

However, at this time they did continue to break up these groups of 75 to 100 into even smaller groups and it was maintained that the reorganization was not a move on the part of the Communist Party to go underground but that it was being done to improve the organizational efficiency of the party and to activate the membership.

However, a statement was made by Ruth Wang, the membership director of the Flatbush sections, who said that the breakdown into small clubs had to be done because no one knew just how much longer it would be before the party might be forced underground, so there was a security measure attached to this movement of breaking down the clubs into smaller groups aside from the mobility that was claimed it would provide.

Mr. DOYLE. What year was that?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. This was beginning of 1946 and of course as time went on, especially in 1947, there was a good deal of anti-Communist feeling and the party was very anxious to combat any threatened outlawing. However, at that particular time, I don't know just what specific measures were being considered, but certainly there was a good deal of talk about outlawing the party and they were anticipating all of this, and probably that is why as early as 1946 they began to reorganize in smaller groups.

Mr. WILLIS. Did the Communist Party become more and more security conscious later?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. They became more and more concerned as time went on. Of course such measures as the Mundt bill were being discussed which they felt would naturally outlaw the party, and of course when the party's 12 leaders were indicted the latter part of 1948, they felt this was a move against the party which would force it underground, and they became much more security conscious as time went on.

It became mandatory for the clubs to break down into small groups, and small clubs, of probably not more than 5 members each in a group. This continued up until even through 1950 when they really did reorganize to a degree of going almost completely underground.

Mr. WILLIS. That is the evidence we received in Milwaukee; that in about 1950 a large number did actually go underground there. Were you going to develop that later on?

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes, to some extent.

Mr. WILLIS. I won't interfere with the chronology of the presentation.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Chairman, you indicated that you would recess at 4 o'clock, and the next subject I wanted to treat is rather extensive.

Mr. DOYLE. Then perhaps we had better recess until 10 tomorrow morning in this room.

(Whereupon, at 3:55 p.m., the committee was recessed, to reconvene at 10 a.m. Wednesday, May 4, 1955.)



## **INVESTIGATION OF COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES, NEW YORK AREA—PART III**

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 4, 1955**

**UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE  
COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES,  
*Washington, D. C.***

### **PUBLIC HEARING**

A subcommittee of the Committee on Un-American Activities met, pursuant to recess at 10 a. m., in the caucus room, Old House Office Building, Hon. Morgan M. Moulder (chairman) presiding.

Committee members present: Representatives Morgan M. Moulder and Edwin E. Willis.

Staff members present: Frank S. Tavenner, counsel, and George C. Williams, investigator.

Mr. MOULDER. The subcommittee will be in order. Proceed, Mr. Tavenner.

Mr. TAVENNER. I would like to recall Mrs. Blauvelt, who is now present.

### **TESTIMONY OF MRS. MILDRED BLAUVELT—Resumed**

Mr. TAVENNER. Mrs. Blauvelt, in the course of the testimony yesterday you described for us a meeting on December 5, 1945 of the Flatbush Club when the chairman, Nat Rosenbluth, advised that the club members must be acquainted and the people of the community must be acquainted with the facts about China, Indonesia, and Palestine.

I would like you to tell the committee what you learned in the course of your work in the Communist Party regarding the activity of the Communist Party in attempting to create a policy with respect to China, Palestine, Iran, and what it termed in general a fight against imperialism.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Probably I can begin by saying that on November 16 and 18, 1945, the national committee of the Communist Party held a meeting at which the decision was made to conduct an anti-imperialist campaign directed particularly against intervention in China.

At this time the various clubs in the Communist Party throughout New York City held mass meetings, outdoor rallies and roving picket lines calling for withdrawal from China. The Chiang Kai-shek government was denounced and what was called American interference in the internal affairs of China was condemned.

In fact, the New York State committee of the Communist Party called for a get-out-of-China rally for November 9 at Union Square.

In connection with this activity at a meeting of the Flatbush Communist Club on December 5 of 1945 Abe Shtabe, a member of the committee which was arranging the joint campaign of the Flatbush and Parkside clubs in the Flatbush section against American intervention in China and Indonesia, and against the administration policies on international affairs in general, reported that it had been decided to hold a roving picket line on December 13 carrying banners calling for a free China, et cetera.

They wanted 50 veterans of the 2 clubs to lead this picket line and he called for the organization of a veterans committee.

Now this picket line was conducted on December 13 and leaflets had been prepared by the club which were distributed at that time.

They were throwaways, and as the picket line was being conducted, the members participating in the picket line would distribute the throwaways and at the conclusion of the picket line one of the members stayed on one of the street corners to dispose of the remaining leaflets.

Also at this time the county committee of the Brooklyn Communist Party issued a call to the entire Kings County membership to participate in a demonstration to be held by the veterans committee of the Brooklyn Communist Party. This demonstration was to be held on Saturday afternoon, December 22, 1945, at 1:30 p. m., in the downtown shopping area of Brooklyn. It was to last for an hour and to be in protest against American intervention in China and was to urge the speedy return of the GI's.

This was a continuing protest and it was coupled with the party's position on Palestine, and leaflets were distributed at regular intervals on these particular issues.

Mr. TAVENNER. You spoke of the leaflets being circulated on the general subject of China. I have before me a throwaway published by the Parkside-Flatbush Communist Party. It is entitled "A Xmas Gift our GI's Want."

I hand it to you and ask if that is one of the leaflets you are mentioning?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes, it is, and I would like to make this point right here: How the Communist Party would tie up a very appealing note to the people, for instance, calling this a Christmas gift—getting the GI's home.

Naturally, everybody wanted to see their boys home. They coupled an appeal like that with the motive of carrying out their anti-imperialistic campaign against the Government's international or foreign policies. It was typical of how they would conduct campaigns.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Chairman, rather than introduce this document in evidence, I believe it is worthwhile to read it into the testimony because its propaganda purposes are so apparent. So with your permission I will read it into the record.

#### A XMAS GIFT OUR GI'S WANT

Our GI's want more than anything else to be sent home. Their job is done. They were sent to lick the Fascist armies of Japan and Germany. They completed this job in coalition with our allies on V-J Day—4 months ago:

Why today are American boys dying in China flying planes to Chiang Kai-shek? Why are American Marines on the firing line in China, in danger of sudden death? Why do we foster civil war by seeking to fasten the reactionary Nationalist regime on the unwilling Chinese people?

The American imperialists pushing this program are juggling with the lives of our GI's. They are willing to let our boys stew in China and the islands of the Pacific and in Europe as they play their dangerous game of power politics. They are undermining our friendly relations with the freedom loving people of China and all Asia. They are planting the seeds of a third world war.

Ambassador Patrick Hurley has resigned. He was smoked out by the speech of Congressman Hugh DeLacy in the House of Representatives as the man responsible for this program—

May I interrupt my reading there by stating that former Congressman Hugh DeLacy was called as a witness before this committee at Dayton in September of 1954 and was confronted with testimony of Barbara Hartle from Seattle in identifying him as a member of the Communist Party, and that former Congressman DeLacy refused to answer material questions relying on the fifth amendment for his refusal to answer.

(Continuing to read the document:)

The pressure of the American people's protest must not relax. Secretary of State James Byrnes must go too. He is equally responsible for the policy of intervention. American troops and equipment must leave China now.

This is America's fifth wartime Christmas. Give our GI's a real gift now. Send a letter to President Truman. Urge him to speed our boys home immediately. Urge him to stop America's meddling in the internal affairs of China.

Don't forget the boys overseas—they haven't forgotten you.

I interrupted your narrative to show that that was one type of propaganda leaflets used by the Communist Party in the campaign it was making in the area of New York.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. That is right.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you proceed, please?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. On the question of Palestine; for instance, in connection with activity on this question the Flatbush Club held a meeting January 8, 1946, at which Mary Himoff, who was in charge of Jewish work for the State office of the Communist Party of New York State, was the guest speaker. She spoke on the current question of allowing the Jewish people to settle in Palestine and said she wanted it understood that the Communist approach to the issue of Palestine was no different than their approach to the issues of Chiang Kai-shek and Indonesia and that just as their demand was for a free China and Indonesia, so was the Communist demand that Jewish people be allowed the right to make their home in Palestine.

She urged the comrades to read the Morning Freheit, which would guide them on the issue of Palestine.

This also was a continuing discussion within the Communist Party clubs and again on May 14, 1946, at a meeting of the Parkside Club, Sid Wang, one of the organizers of the Flatbush section, discussed this question and he maintained that England's interest in Palestine was not because of its natural resources of which it had none, but because it was the lifeline between the oilfields of Iran and Iraq and the Mediterranean, and he said the whole question of the fight for Palestine revolved around the fight against this British imperialism and that the Communists as Marxists must view the problem of getting the displaced Jews of Europe into Palestine in the light of fighting imperialism rather than in the light of merely giving relief and sympathy to the Jewish people.

Mr. TAVENNER. In other words, was it the Communist Party purpose to carry out certain overall objectives in its world fight for com-

munism in which it was interested rather than in the Jewish people as such?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. That is right. On the relationship of the Soviet Union and the displaced Jews, Sid Wang stated that the doors of the Soviet were open to them but that the Soviet required citizenship of those who lived and worked within its borders and that many of the displaced Jewish people were reluctant to assume such citizenship not being willing to accept socialism.

He also stated that the Soviet required rigid screening of those entering the country in order to keep out undesirables and the Soviet was justified in this screening because it was an isolated state surrounded on all sides by enemies and therefore had to protect itself against the entrance of Fascists who would sabotage it, whereas the United States was not surrounded by enemies and had nothing to fear.

He said the Communists must take action to bring the Jewish question to the attention of the community and that they must work in mass organizations and work as Communists although not necessarily in the name of the party, and he said the Flatbush section was going to set up a committee to work on this problem and each club was to canvass its membership to see who would be available to work on this particular committee.

Mr. TAVENNER. When you began to discuss this subject you stated that Mary Himoff took the lead. Have you had any opportunity to know anything about Mary Himoff since the time of this meeting on January 8, 1946?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Not of my own personal knowledge.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Chairman, Mary Himoff is the person who was sent by the Communist Party to the city of Baltimore, according to sworn testimony before the committee, and there became the secretary of the Communist Party at the same time Earl Reno was the organizer of the Communist Party.

We also have testimony regarding her that she became the interpreter of the Russian who was sent from Russia to this country to take a position of leadership in the Young Communist League.

We found this person by the name of "Max" referred to in hearings of our committee in many places in the United States but it was only during the Baltimore hearing that we were able to identify his alias as Max Young and that his real name was D-a-m-a-n-o-n. We found Mr. Damanon was then under deportation orders.

Did you have any knowledge of Mary Himoff prior to this meeting of January 8, 1946?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. No, sir; I don't believe I did. . .

Mr. TAVENNER. I believe you have told us she was in charge of the Jewish work for the state office of the Communist Party in New York in 1946.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. Please proceed.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. There was a similar situation which existed in connection with the question of Iran and this also was discussed at party meetings. At a meeting of the Flatbush section held on April 21, 1946, Nat Rosenbluth, the section organizer, spoke on imperialism and the Iranian situation and in this connection he stated that Iran was a feudal state in which English and American imperialists wished to

maintain control of oil and that such a cartel could be prevented if the Soviet Union were given concessions because the Soviet was a Socialist state and not interested in imperialism and the Soviet would return 49 percent of the profits to Iran and look toward the welfare of the people; whereas the English would return only 20 percent which would go to the landowners. That was typical of their reasoning on these particular questions at the time.

Mr. TAVENNER. You made reference to the organization of a veterans committee. You stated that special emphasis was being placed upon recruiting veterans. Will you give the committee any additional information you have regarding the Communist Party program among veterans?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Here again probably I could start out by saying that the Communist Party of New York State held a conference on December 1-2, 1945 for the purpose of drawing up a program in connection with veterans and at this conference resolutions were presented calling for the organization of veterans into trade unions and veterans organizations, the organization of Negro veterans, the recruitment of veterans into the party, the integration of returning Communist veterans into party leadership and formation of county and section committees.

At the meeting of the Flatbush club held December 5, 1945, Abe Shtabe, who had attended this conference, reported on it and stated that William Z. Foster had said that the veterans would become an integral part of the Communist Party's activities and that Robert Thompson had compared the difference between the return of the Communists from the Spanish Civil War when they knew that the world was headed for fascism and war and comparing that with their return from World War II when they should have been able to feel that fascism was crushed only to find that the forces of imperialism and reaction were still at work.

In connection with this activity the party members were constantly reminded to recruit veterans and the clubs endeavored to reregister those veterans who had been party members before their induction into the services and the veterans who were in the party were urged to become active in veterans organizations as well as in their own trade unions and other mass organizations of which they might be members.

Mr. TAVENNER. You have testified concerning your membership in the Parkside club of the Communist Party. Will you refresh the recollection of the committee, please, as to the period of time that you were a member of the Parkside club?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. I was a member of the Parkside club from January 1946 until June 1946.

Mr. TAVENNER. During that period of time were you appointed to any major committee of the Parkside club of the Communist Party?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. I was appointed as chairman of the fund drive committee. The party had annual fund drives usually at the beginning of the year, and in this particular fund drive that was conducted at the time I was in the Parkside club, I was made the chairman of the fund drive committee.

Mr. TAVENNER. A little later I will want to ask you about your activity as chairman of the fund drive committee. I want to delay that because I believe there were fund drive activities in later groups in which you were a member.

Will you give us at this time, please, the identification of those persons in the Parkside club of the Communist Party who were personally known to you to be members of the Communist Party and in doing this I would want you to carry out the same instructions as before as to identification of individuals.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. When I was transferred to the Parkside club in January of 1946 several members of the Flatbush club were transferred with me and they were Abe Feingold, Rose Gollomb, Florence Levine, Dorothy Liff, Anne E. Morganstern, Ann Rivlin, John Rogers, Nat Rosenberg, and Ruth Wang.

In addition to those transfers from the Flatbush Club I came to know as members of the Parkside club, Herman Abramson of 45 Hawthorne Street. He was on the executive committee of the Parkside Club. He was at one time chairman of the 11th A. D. section of the American Labor Party, a member of Americans United for World Organization, the Zionist Organization of America and one of the PTA groups in the neighborhood.

Mr. TAVENNER. How are you able to identify these persons who were members of the Parkside Club?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. I met with them at meetings at some time or other that were held by the Parkside club.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you also have a group of members at this club identified to you by the chairman of the club?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes, sir; I did.

Mr. TAVENNER. Tell us how that occurred.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. When I was made the chairman of the fund drive committee I had to write letters to a certain group of the membership, letters which asked these particular members to make pledges to the fund drive, letters which asked those members who had already pledged to the fund drive to fulfill their pledges and an additional letter to all these comrades, urging them to attend a party given by the Parkside Club to raise funds for the fund drive. This list was given to me by Betty Medinz, chairman of the club.

Mr. TAVENNER. The list was give you by the chairman of the club?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. That is correct.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Chairman, I believe we should reserve for executive session the identification of persons whose names were given to her on a list by the chairman of the Parkside Club which I believe to be in a different category from persons that she actually was able to identify from her own personal knowledge; with the exception, however, of the persons whose names were given her as members of the club regarding contributions to the fund drive of the Communist Party, and who responded to that call to contribute funds.

Mrs. TAVENNER. Will that procedure be satisfactory?

Mr. MOULDER. Yes. Was this list part of the records of the club?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Records as such were not actually kept under party orders. They were not to be kept.

Mr. MOULDER. Were you an official at that time?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. I was chairman of the fund drive committee; and Betty Medinz, chairman of the Parkside Club, gave me in my capacity as chairman of the fund drive committee, this list of the members to whom to send letters.

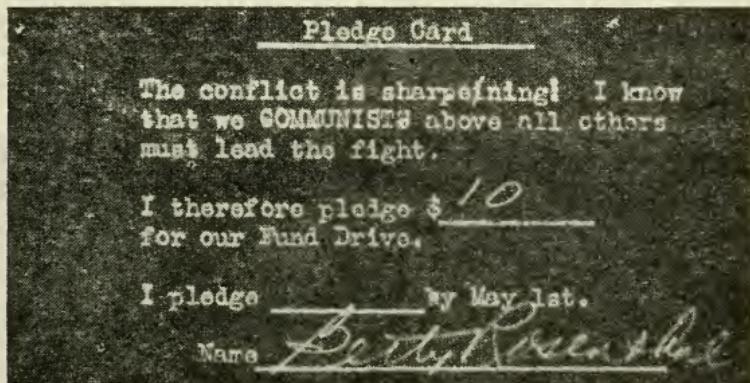
Mr. TAVENNER. Do you understand that you are to give us in public session only the names of members on that list who in response to your

contact with them made contributions to the fund drive of the Communist Party?

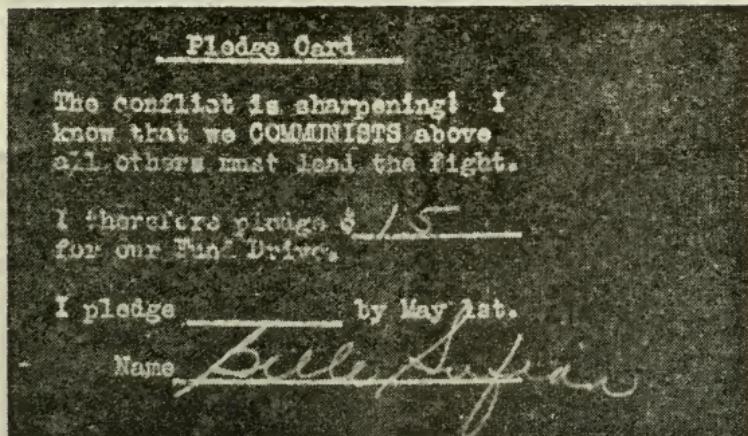
Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes, sir.

(Subsequent to the appearance of Mrs. Blauvelt before the committee, she located and furnished the committee 25 pledge cards from individuals whose names appeared on the list given her by Betty Medinz, chairman of the Parkside Club. In the particular instances where the name of the pledgor is concealed, by either the pledgor failing to sign his full name or the use of an alias, Mrs. Blauvelt identified each person by the name under which that person was known to her. The pledge cards are reproduced herewith in numerical order with each identification as furnished by Mrs. Blauvelt:)

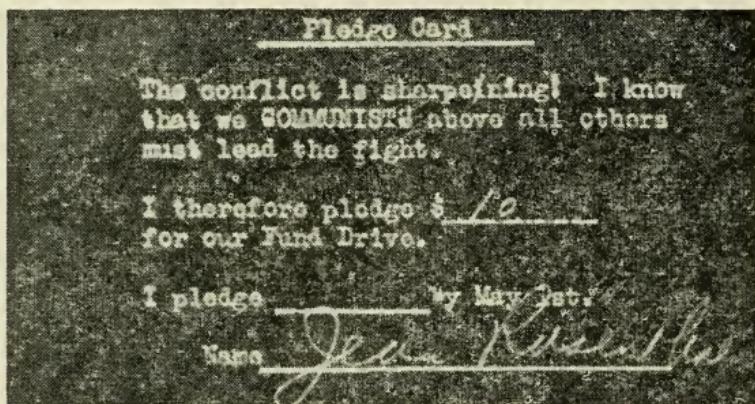
BLAUVELT EXHIBIT No. 20



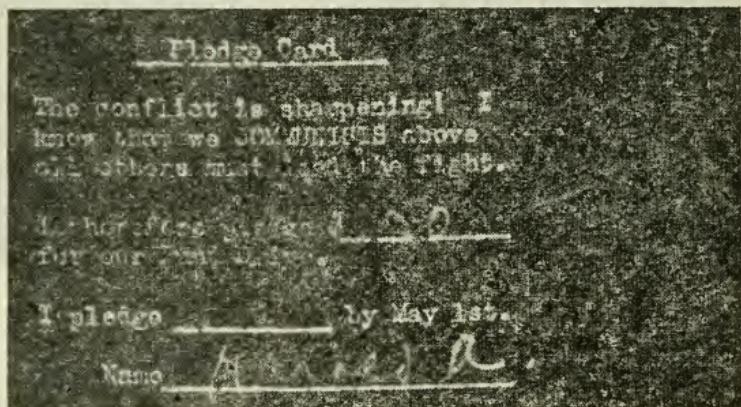
No. 1. BETTY ROSENTHAL.



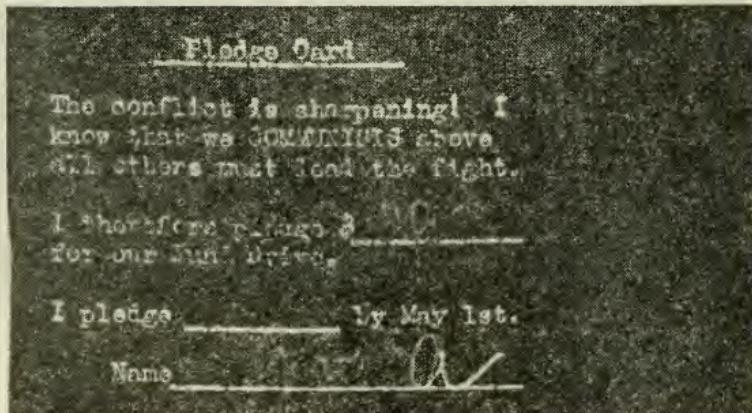
No. 2. BELLE SUFIAN.



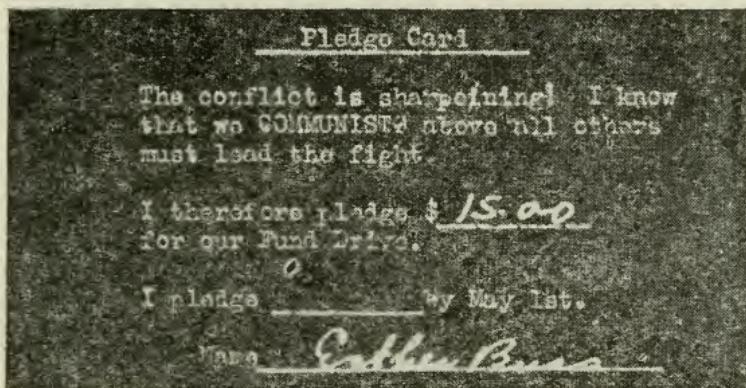
NO. 3. JEAN ROSENTHAL.



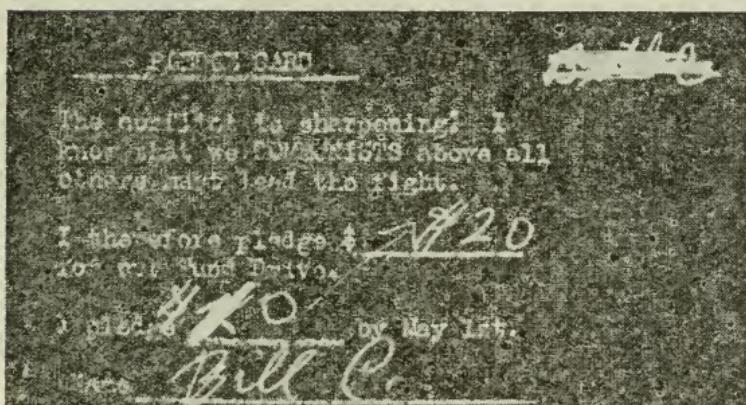
NO. 4. HAROLD A BROFF.



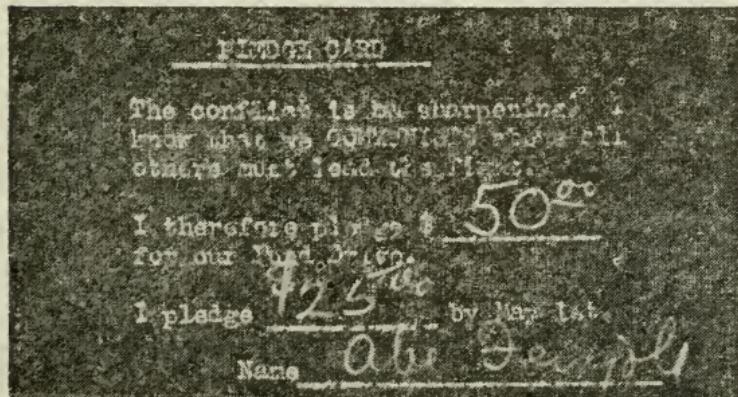
NO. 5. GERT A BROFF.



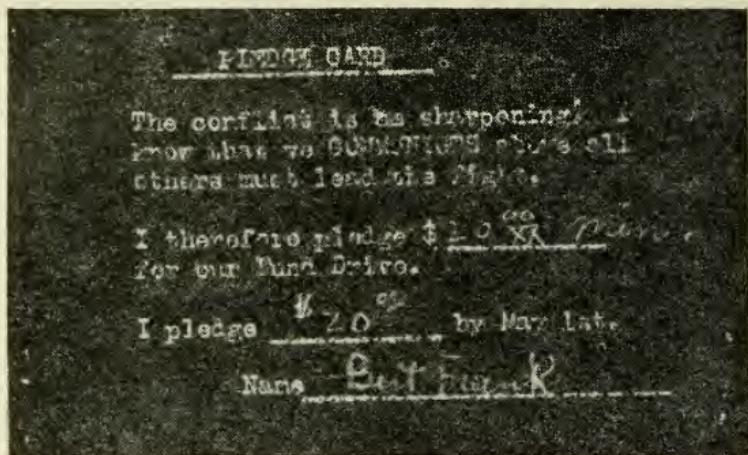
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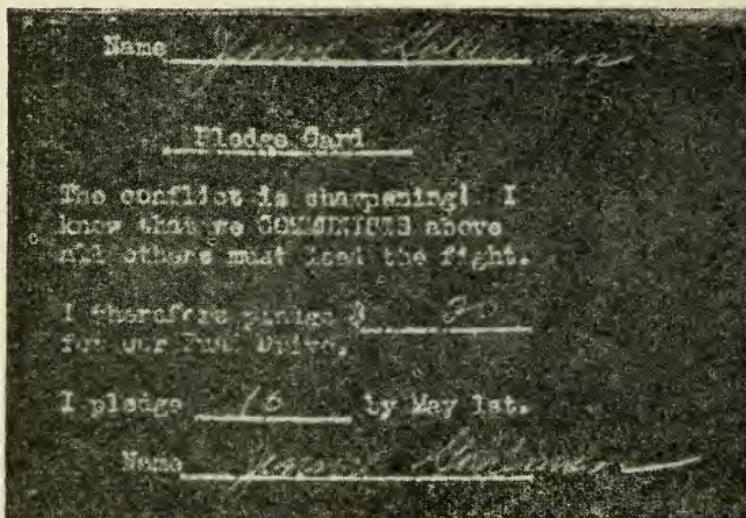
No. 7. BILL CAHN.



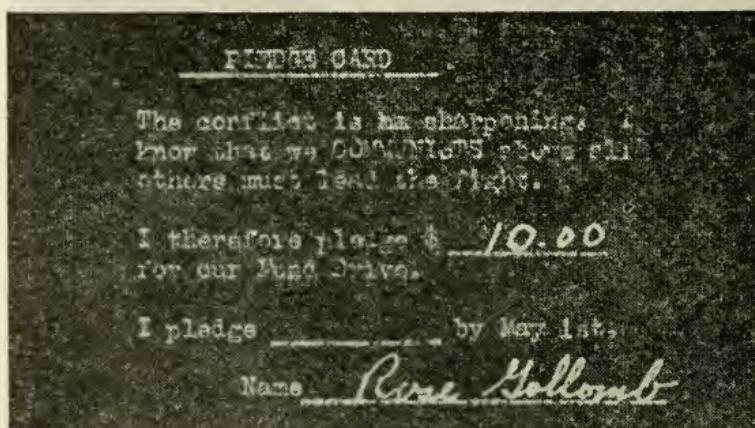
No. 8. ABE FEINGOLD.



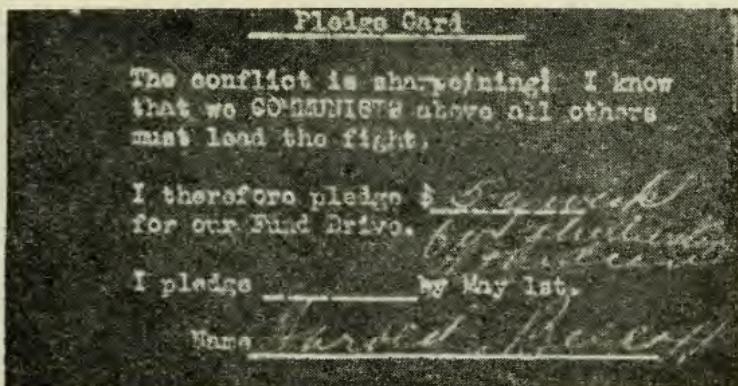
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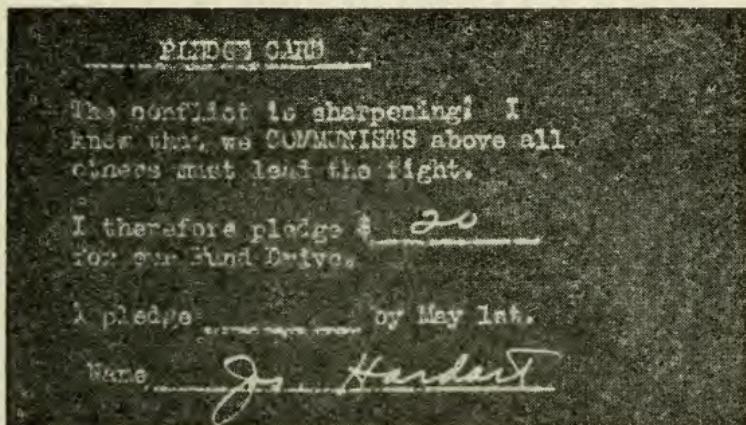
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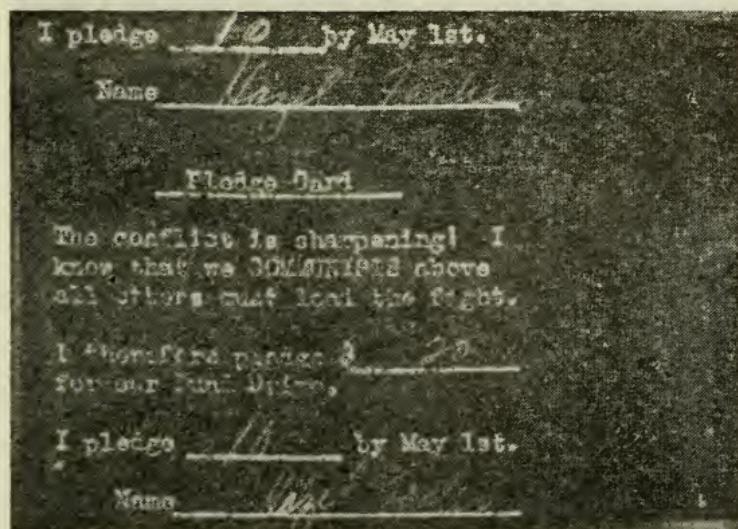
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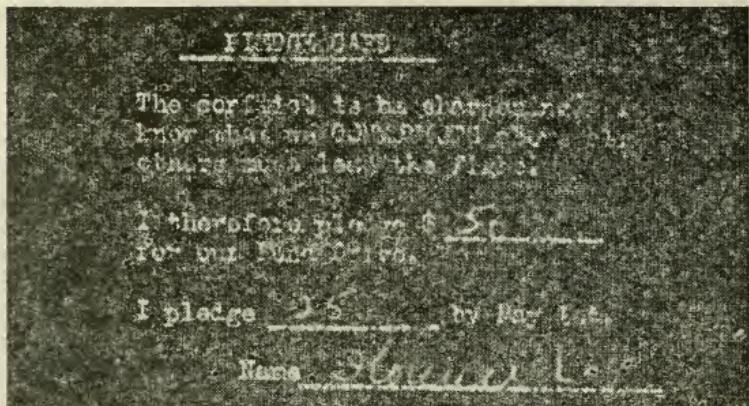
No. 12. HAROLD AND BELLE HEYMAN.



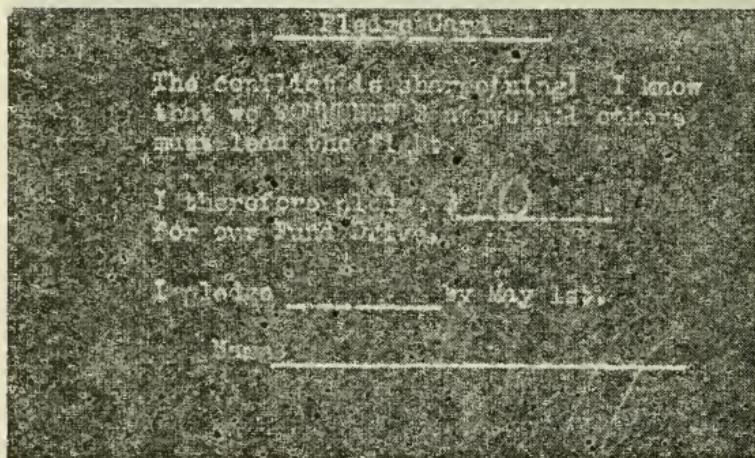
No. 13. JOSEPH HARDART.



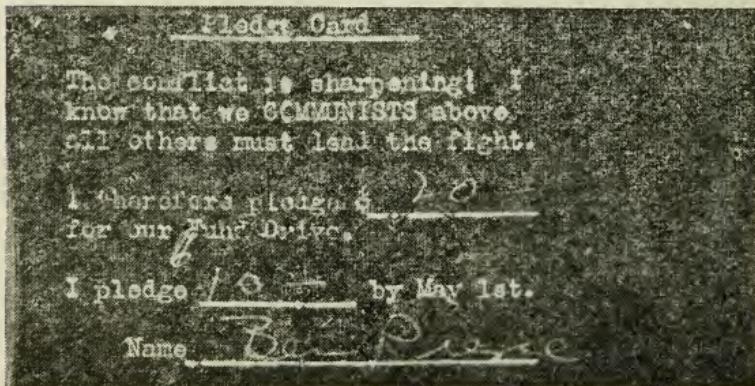
No. 14. HAZEL FORBES.



No. 15. FLORENCE LEVINE.



No. 16. DOROTHY LIFF.



No. 17. BEN PIERCE.

PLEDGE CARD

The conflict is sharpening! I know that we COMMUNISTS above all others must lead the fight.

I therefore pledge \$10.00 for our Fund Drive.

I pledge \_\_\_\_\_ by May 1st.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

No. 18. NORMA PIERCE.

PLEDGE CARD

The conflict is sharpening! I know that we COMMUNISTS above all others must lead the fight.

I therefore pledge \$50.00 for our Fund Drive.

I pledge \_\_\_\_\_ by May 1st.

Name Leonard Tyler

No. 19. LEONARD TYLER.

PLEDGE CARD

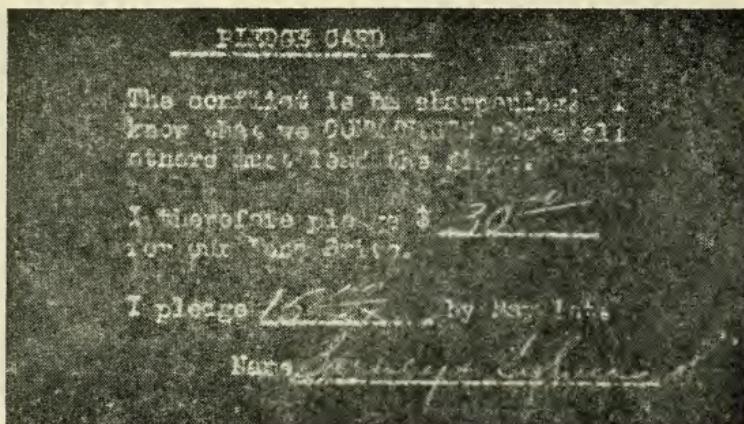
The conflict is sharpening! I know that we COMMUNISTS above all others must lead the fight.

I therefore pledge \$.20 for our Fund Drive.

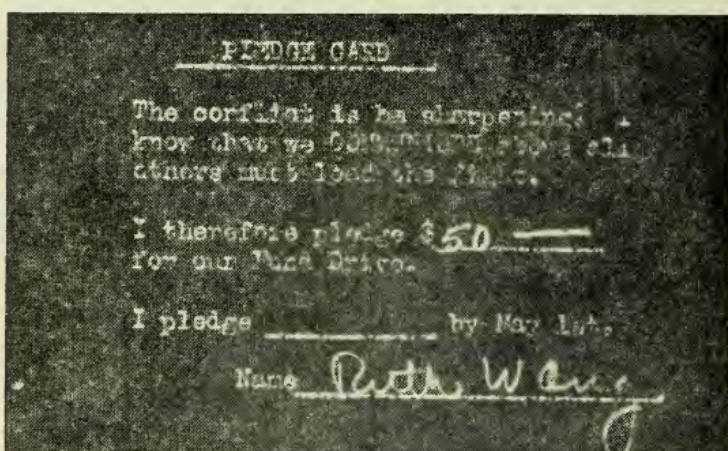
I pledge \_\_\_\_\_ by May 1st.

Name Betty Medinz

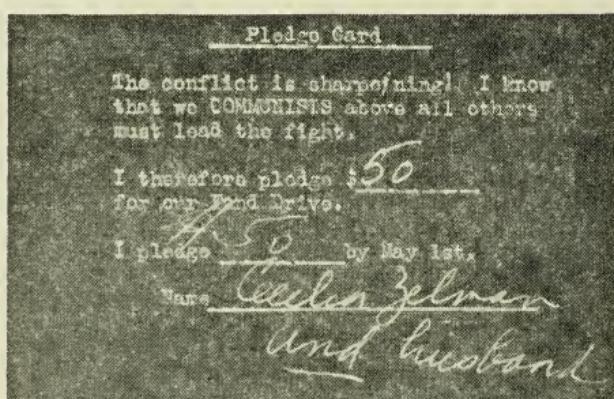
No. 20. BETTY MEDINZ.



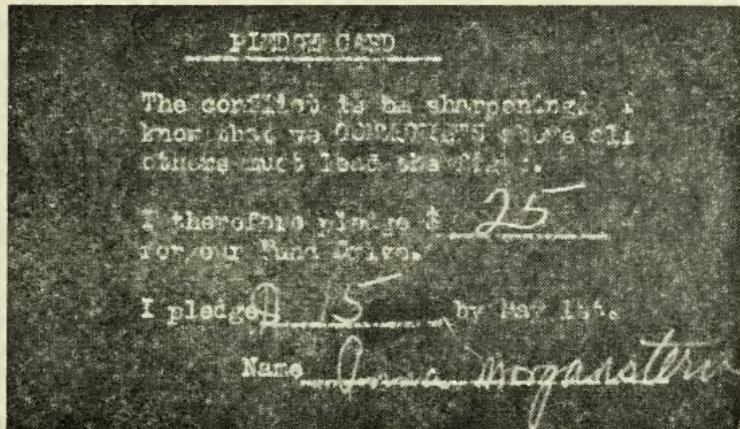
No. 21. BARNEY AND SYLVIA SCHNEIDERMAN.



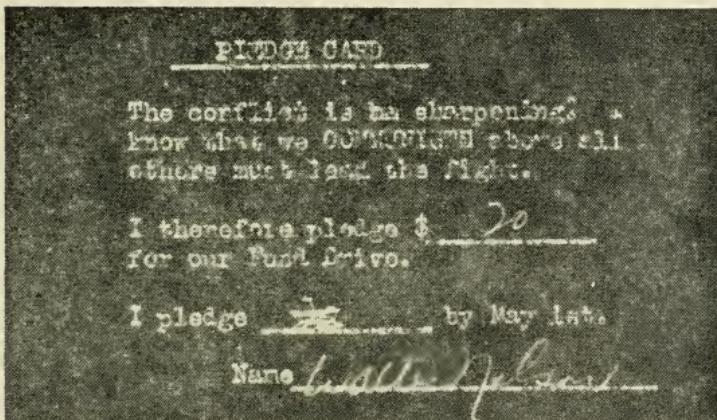
No. 22. RUTH WANG.



No. 23. CECELIA ZELMAN AND HUSBAND FRED ZELMAN.



No. 24. ANNE E. MORGANSTERN



No. 25. WALTER NELSON.

Mrs. BLAUVELT (reading) :

There was another member, Gert Abroff, of 130 Fenimore Street. She came to one of the meetings of the Parkside Club. She had been made a part of the fund drive committee but never appeared at any of the meetings that I called.

There was Harold Abroff, 130 Fenimore Street, who pledged to the fund drive in response to the request made in these letters.

I do have several people that I come to right now who are part of that mailing list. I suppose you prefer that I not name them now.

There was Larry Borgia. Larry Borgia before entering the Army had been president of the former large Parkside Club in the Flatbush section and was called one of its most active members. He was reregistered into the party for 1946 at a meeting that was held on February 5 of 1946 and at that time he stated that he was a member of the State, County, and Municipal Workers Union.

Also I knew Esta Buss, 57 Lincoln Road. Esta Buss was later transferred with me to the Lincoln Road Club. She was a member of the American Labor Party.

There was also Bill Cahn, 105 Lincoln Road. He was later transferred into the Lincoln Road Club with me where he was acting chairman for a while. He was a member of the United Electrical Radio and Machine Workers of America, and of the American Newspaper Guild, and he said he did some of the writing for UERMWA.

There was Rhoda Cahn, also 105 Lincoln Road, who was later transferred to the Lincoln Road Club with me and who was very active upon party directives in attempting to form a consumers' council. She had a sublicense to teach in the New York City school system but surrendered it.

**Mr. WILLIS.** By sublicense do you mean as a substitute teacher?

**Mrs. BLAUVELT.** That is right. [Reading:]

Elizabeth Feingold, 64 Sterling Street. She was later transferred to the Lincoln Road Club with me where she was educational director for a while and membership director for a while. She stated she was active in the PTA. She also had a license to teach in the New York City school system but also surrendered her license.

There was Larry G. Garber, also known as Gold, 307 Sterling Street. He was later transferred with me to the Lincoln Road Club and at one of the meetings held for the purpose of reregistering the members into the party for 1947 he appeared to reregister and at that time stated that he was a projectionist and also stated he was trying to organize a Communist Party club in an industrial unit.

Ted Grossman. He joined the party at a meeting of the Parkside Club held March 19, 1946, at which Harold Collins of the Jefferson School spoke. Collins had invited all of the nonmembers present at that particular meeting to join the party and Grossman was one who responded to that invitation.

**Joseph Hardart:** Joseph Hardart pledged \$29 for the fund drive being conducted at that time.

Belle Heyman, 433 Rogers Avenue: She was transferred with me to the Lincoln Road Club where she became its membership director. She said she worked for Best & Co.

Harold Heyman, 433 Rogers Avenue: He was director of press at the Parkside Club. He was transferred to the Lincoln Road Club with me where he became its chairman. He was a serviceman.

There was a Helen Kleiner, whom I met at one of the Parkside Club meetings, and there was Herman Lacey, whom I met at the meetings. He was supposed to have worked for Hearns Department Store.

Abe Levine, whom I met at meetings.

Betty Medinz, 271 Parkside Avenue: She was the chairman of the Parkside Club and stated that she worked for the Consumers' Union.

Beckie Medinz, 271 Parkside Avenue who was Betty's mother, and attended a meeting of the club.

There was Millie Medinz, also known as Mickey, 271 Parkside Avenue. She also attended meetings of the Parkside Club.

Mary Nelson, 150 Lefferts Avenue, who was transferred to the Lincoln Road Club, with me. She was a member of the furriers union, she said, and was later transferred to an industrial unit of the furriers union.

Walter Nelson, 150 Lefferts Avenue, later transferred to the Lincoln Road Club with me.

He was literature director in the Lincoln Road Club. He stated he was a member of the Philharmonic Choral Society.

Dorothy Nowak, 245 Hawthorne Street: She was in attendance at a meeting of the Parkside Club.

Sylvia Ogur, 411 Parkside Avenue: She stated she was a teacher in a community school and she attended several meetings of the Parkside Club with me. She also had a substitute license to teach in the New York City school system but I believe that was vacated.

Gil Pelham, 100 Lefferts Avenue: He was also transferred with me to the Lincoln Road Club where he became its press director and also its chairman for a while. He worked for the Federal Government and I believe he mentioned something about customs and also some work about surplus.

**Mr. WILLIS.** Was he stationed in New York?

**Mrs. BLAUVELT.** He was in New York. In 1946 he mentioned being in Linden, N. J., and stated he was supposed to be going to Syracuse. I do not know whether or not it was a transfer.

Mr. WILLIS. When was your last association with him?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. That would have been sometime in 1946, early part of 1947.

Mr. WILLIS. Mr. Chairman, may I make a suggestion?

Yesterday this witness, speaking about the same period identified someone said to have been connected with the Department of Agriculture. Here we have another one connected with the customs. I suggest that the clerk be instructed to write to the respective Departments involved and ascertain if the two persons mentioned are employees of the Government.

Mr. MOULDER. A splendid suggestion.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. In connection with Gil Pelham, he was very suspicious of the fact that he was under investigation at that time. What might have happened to him since then I don't know, but he was certainly aware from the opinions he was expressing that some investigation was being conducted against him. I don't know whether that might have subsequently frightened him out of the party.

Mr. MOULDER. Mr. Beale understands the suggestion and he is instructed to proceed accordingly by seeking information as to whether they are still employed by the Government or when they were employed and in what capacities.

Mrs. BLAUVELT (reading) :

There was Harry Richman, 317 Lefferts Avenue. He also transferred to the Lincoln Road Club, with me. He attended meetings and at one time stated that he had joined the Communist Party in 1932.

Sylvia Richman, 317 Lefferts Avenue. She was also transferred to the Lincoln Road Club with me and under party directives organized a consumers council. She also had a license to teach in the New York City school system but surrendered that license.

Jeanette Rosenfeld, 85 Clarkson Avenue. She was press director for a while and also the recording secretary of the Parkside Club. She was attending a section training class at the time that I knew her.

Seymour Rosenfeld, 85 Clarkson Avenue. He was on the executive committee of the Parkside Club, and I think was organizer for awhile, and was made part of the section review commission, as I recall. He also attended the section training class.

Mr. TAVENNER. What is a section review commission?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. A review commission is composed of those members of the party who have the responsibility of investigating and screening other members in the party for security reasons. If there is any doubt about their loyalty to the Communist Party, it is this review commission which passes judgment upon them. Usually they take action on whether party members shall be dropped from the party or expelled from the party or retained, depending on whether they so decide.

Mr. WILLIS. It seems to me that with all the care they seem to take about security they are not as good as our FBI. There you are, an undercover agent, and it took them 9 years to discover you were there. They are not so smart.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. I stayed a step ahead of them.

Mr. WILLIS. For 9 years, and at the risk of your life, according to the citation.

Mr. TAVENNER. Were there any occasions when you were fearful that your identity had been or was about to be discovered?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes, there were several times when I thought probably I might have been either recognized by the comrades whom I

met very unexpectedly in places where ordinarily I should not have been, according to my party background. I remember one instance of one of the comrades calling upon me at my earliest address. I wasn't there at the time. But they did a very nice job of covering for me. Then I know one time when I had to go into headquarters.

Mr. TAVENNER. Police headquarters?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Police headquarters, to submit one of my reports. I was just about a block away from headquarters when I was crossing the street and one of the comrades came driving along in a truck and hailed me, and I was positive that probably the next day when I went to a meeting I was going to be criticized for being in a part of the city at a time when I should not be there and questioned as to my motives in being there, and probably some suspicion cast upon me. There were other instances when I had to leave my own home, naturally, to get to meetings and on a couple of occasions I did happen to walk into the subway train where some other comrade whom I knew from another section was sitting, and it meant either a fast exit or getting into another car of the train as quickly as I could. Incidents did happen like that with more frequency than I cared to experience.

Mr. WILLIS. You related to us between sessions yesterday the occasion where they finally caught up with you in 1951, and where you had to meet someone on a street corner.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. That was at the time of my expulsion from the party. Of course they had at the time of my expulsion taken a period of a few months before they actually got around to expelling me. They had conducted a verification of me. In other words, a screening. They had called me into private session and told me that they were going to consider me for a confidential job within the party.

However, I did have to have a more complete screening than I had already had. Then they also told me a little later that this confidential assignment would have to be held in abeyance because there was some suspicion that I might be an agent for the FBI.

Well, a certain period elapsed and I finally was contacted to meet with my section director on one of the street corners in Brooklyn and I did as I was directed. We stood on the corner in the cold for about half an hour before she finally hailed a cab to take us to the apartment where I was going to face my expulsion.

They didn't tell me it was an expulsion meeting but I anticipated it. We went to the apartment of one of the comrades who was living in the Gowanus housing project. I was faced with the two members of the review commission who had conducted the verification of me and I went through another interrogation and was called a stool pigeon, et cetera.

Mr. WILLIS. All this reinvestigation of you was leading up to a promotion in the Communist Party, whereas they were pressing you for more information about your life?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Well, it may be interpreted both ways. They might have been sincere in their statement that they did wish to consider me for a confidential appointment because at that time they were placing many of their members in the underground and they had to place those members whom they considered reliable.

I had proved myself up until that particular time to be one of their reliable comrades. They could depend upon me to carry out direc-

tives. There might have been some truth in it. I have absolutely no way of knowing. I would have been very interested in finding out myself whether I ever did get a confidential assignment.

Mr. WILLIS. Did they ever ask you while an undercover operative to solicit membership to the party? Was that not tough on you to ask people to join the party?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. I never did ask anybody to join the party, actually.

Mr. WILLIS. How did you get by in making them believe you were soliciting membership?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. There were many people whom you might ask to join the party whom you met through canvassing with the Daily Worker in the neighborhood, but in many cases naturally they would refuse. So I didn't have to worry too much about that. I was just not a successful recruiter.

Mr. TAVENNER. You said you had to prove your so-called loyalty to the Communist Party by carrying out its directives. Were you ever assigned a chore or a duty which was very difficult for you to perform as you were not actually an ideological member of the Communist Party?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Well, I think probably one of the most difficult tasks that faced me in the party was distribution of leaflets on street corners and subway stations and in front of the department stores. When I was called upon to do those things naturally I did have to do them and I did them, but it was with great reluctance that I did so. Of course it always presented a security risk to myself because I never knew whom I might meet, who might know my true identity and would greet me by my true name.

I had not only the risk of being discovered by the party, but I had also the risk of being confronted with personal friends of mine who naturally did not know I was in the party. This was a well-guarded secret during the 9 years I was in the party. There were also some instances of carrying out directives which I was reluctant to do.

For instance, when we had to reregister the membership into the party and I was directed to speak to certain of the members, some of whom were a little reluctant to reregister for various reasons. I remember the case of one of the comrades who was a deeply religious woman. She joined the party on the urging of the party members in my club on the basis that the party was helping the Negro people. She happened to be a Negro. When the time came for reregister into the party for the forthcoming year, she hesitated about reregistering because she couldn't quite reconcile religion and the Communist Party. She had been told if you were a member of the Communist Party, at least her pastor told her if she was a member of the Communist Party, she could not be a member of the church.

I did have to see her and speak to her and project part of the party line. However, in this instance I was not too successful and she did succumb to her religious influences more so than to the influence of the party.

There were others. There was one who also was reluctant to re-register because she was a type of person who had to force herself to participate in party activities and though she had no difference with the party, she felt that inasmuch as she was inactive it would be better for her not to remain in the party as a member.

However, I finally did persuade her to remain in the party and she told me at the time that I reregistered her that if the party had sent anyone else to her but me, she probably would never have been persuaded to reregister.

Mr. MOULDER. What do you mean by reregister?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. The Communist Party conducted reregistration of membership in the fall of every year to reregister the members into the party for the forthcoming year; an annual procedure which was conducted. It was not simply going from year to year with the membership as such. They actually had to be reenrolled more or less as party members.

Mr. WILLIS. Mr. Tavener, I don't want to interrupt your chronology of examination. Mrs. Blauvelt will develop the picture of the party appeal to minority groups, especially the colored race; I assume you will come to that later.

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes, sir.

The reason I asked the question about this review commission was to ascertain if it was the same type of commission you had to go before in the matter of your own expulsion in the year 1951.

Mrs. BLAUVELT (reading) :

Hattie Rubin, also known as Rubinstein, 57 Lincoln Road. She was transferred with me into the Lincoln Road Club where she attended meetings with me. Barney Schneiderman, 409 Parkside Avenue. He had been a serviceman and did attend some meetings of the Parkside Club with me.

Sylvia Schneiderman, 409 Parkside Avenue, who stated that she had done some work for the state educational committee of the Communist Party and that she had taken one of the state education courses. Sylvia Schneiderman held a license to teach in the New York City School System but she was dismissed in 1950.

Jane Shapiro, 245 Hawthorne Street. She stated she was a member or had been a member of the Young Communist League and was a member of the American Labor Party, and at the time I knew her was attending the Jefferson School of Social Science. We held a meeting in her home.

There was Belle Sufian, 56 Winthrop Street. I had to contact her regarding the fund drive and she pledged \$15.

There was Lucille Tow, 50 Lincoln Road. She was transferred to the Lincoln Road Club with me at a latter period. She and her husband contributed \$50 to the fund drive. She attended a meeting with me.

Sid Tow, 50 Lincoln Road, who also went into the Lincoln Road Club with me and together with his wife pledged \$50 to the fund drive.

Bud Turchin, 49 Clarkson Avenue. He was a veteran and he did attend some meetings of the Parkside Club with me.

Leonard Tyler, 263 Parkside Avenue. I first met Leonard Tyler when I was attending a class in the Flatbush Club which had been taught by Abe Feingold and in the Parkside Club he was press director and member of the executive committee. He was also a lawyer.

There were Cecelia Zelman and Fred Zelman.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was there a professional group of the Communist Party in the general Flatbush area?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. I don't know of any particular professional group at that time. Most of my experience in the Flatbush Club was as a community club and at the time of the broad policy of the party when the industrial units and shop units had been more or less dissolved, many of the people in those groups came into the community branches and the Flatbush Club did have a good number of professional people, most of whom I learned were teachers.

There were professional clubs. I know, for instance, when I was in the Boro Hall section there was a professional club called the

Helen Horton Club supposed to be composed of lawyers and doctors, and I understand that this particular club was depended upon very often to make large contributions to the fund drives and any other monetary contributions which the party in the Boro Hall section happened to ask for.

Mr. TAVENNER. As chairman of the fund drive committee were you required at any time to confer with members of the professional club for the purpose of solicitation of funds?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. No. As I said, there was no professional club there at that time.

That I think would complete my presentation of the Parkside Club.

Mr. MOULDER. Mr. Tavenner, do you think this would be a good point in the proceedings to recess, for the reason that there is an important bill pending on the floor of the House and we have been requested to be present at 11 o'clock.

Mr. TAVENNER. May I ask just one question?

Mr. MOULDER. Certainly.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you tell the committee at this time, please, how many persons were on the list furnished you by the chairman of your club to be consulted by you for the purpose of obtaining contributions to the fund drive of the Communist Party?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. I made no actual count of that number, but I would judge at least a couple of dozen. I can make an accurate count for you if you wish.

Mr. TAVENNER. That is sufficient.

Mr. MOULDER. The committee will stand in recess until later this afternoon. We do not know exactly when we can return. We will say tentatively 1:30.

(Whereupon, at 11:15 a. m. the committee was recessed, to reconvene at 1:30 p. m. the same day.)

#### AFTERNOON SESSION MAY 4, 1955

Committee members present: Representatives Morgan M. Moulder (chairman) and Edwin E. Willis.

Mr. MOULDER. The subcommittee will be in order.

Proceed Mr. Tavenner.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mrs. Blauvelt, will you tell us again the date you were transferred out of the Parkside Club of the Communist Party?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. It was June 1946.

Mr. TAVENNER. To what group were you then transferred?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. To the Lincoln Road Club in the Flatbush section.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you tell the committee, please, the circumstances which gave rise to the formation of the Lincoln Road Club?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Well, at this particular time it was decided that the clubs were still too large and that further reorganization was necessary to break them down into smaller groups, and therefore the Parkside Club was divided into 2 clubs, one of which was the Lincoln Road Club of which I became a member.

Mr. TAVENNER. What was the name of the other club?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. I do not recall the name of the other club.

Mr. TAVENNER. What was the approximate membership of the Lincoln Road Club?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. I would say the Lincoln Road Club had approximately 45 to 50 members.

Mr. TAVENNER. How long were you a member of that club?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. For just about a year.

Mr. TAVENNER. During this period of time, did you receive an appointment to any particular committee or any particular phase of Communist Party work?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Well, for the first couple of months that I was in the Lincoln Road Club I was financial secretary and then after that I was made its press director.

Mr. TAVENNER. As financial secretary and as press director did you have very intimate contact with the membership of that group?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. That is correct.

Mr. TAVENNER. I will want to ask you a number of questions regarding your duties as financial secretary and as press director, but as those activities covered several different units of which you were a member, I will defer that for the moment.

I ask you at this time to identify the members of the Lincoln Road Club of the Communist Party who were known to you to be members of the Communist Party, and may I ask you to again follow the same directions about identification as previously given?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes, sir.

When I was transferred from the Parkside Club to the Lincoln Road Club several of the other members were transferred with me and they included Esta Buss, Bill Cahn, Rhoda Cahn, Abe Feingold, Elizabeth Feingold, Bert Frank, Larry Garber, Rose Gellar, Belle Heyman, Harold Heyman, Dorothy Liff, Mary Nelson, Walter Nelson, Gil Pelham, Harry Richman, Sylvia Richman, Hattie Rubin, Lucille Tow, Sid Tow, and Ruth Wang.

In addition to which, Gerald Goodman who had formerly been a member of the Flatbush Club, was placed in the Lincoln Road Club.

Mr. TAVENNER. You say you came to know these individuals. Do you mean you came to know them as members of the Communist Party?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes, as members of the Lincoln Road Club. In addition to those members I came to know Al DiMartino. [Reading:]

Al DiMartino used the name of Al Martin in the party. He was a member of the furniture workers union and was eventually transferred to an industrial union. He ran what he called the Flatbush Art Gallery at 849 Flatbush Avenue.

David Edelson, 145 Lincoln Road: He wished to use the name Miller in the party. However, he was very infrequently referred to by that name. He had been in the Army and was now working in dental supplies.

Ethel Edelson also wished to use the name of Miller in the party and I did hear her referred to upon one occasion as Judith. She also lived at 145 Lincoln Road.

Florence Goodman, 250 Midwood Avenue: She was registered into the party for the year 1947 at a meeting that was held on November 19, 1946.

Thelma Ostrow, also known as Ostrowitz, 288 Midwood Avenue. She stated she had joined the Communist Party in 1934, that she had attended a Communist Party State training school, and that she was sister-in-law to Larry Garber. She stated she was a union organizer for district 4 of the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America, and that she had done organizational work in a fur dyeing factory, also in the stockyard area in Chicago, and also in the South.

Mr. TAVENNER. You say she was an organizer in District 4, United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America. Did you learn where she was located during that period of time?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. No, sir; I did not. That was just a statement that she made regarding the work she had been doing in the party. [Reading:]

Judy Straus, 1901 Bedford Avenue: She was a member of the executive board of the Flatbush chapter of the Progressive Citizens of America, and she was the wife of Dr. Mark Straus, chairman of the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee.

That about completes the members of the Lincoln Road Club.

Mr. TAVENNER. While you served as financial secretary and as press director of the Lincoln Road Club, did you have occasion to meet with Communist Party members on a higher level such as the section level of the party?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes, sir; I did.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you tell us first what is meant by the section level of the party?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. The section level of the party referred to the section committee. Each section was divided into a number of clubs and over these clubs there was this higher body which was called a section. It supervised the clubs within the section; it had an executive committee, the members of which gave certain directives to the executive members of the branches in connection with the conduct of party activities.

Mr. TAVENNER. What was the name of this particular section?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. This was the Flatbush section.

Mr. TAVENNER. What was the occasion for becoming acquainted with members of the section, the Flatbush section of the Communist Party?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. As the financial secretary of the Lincoln Road Club I was called upon to attend meetings with the section membership director and section financial secretary at a section level, and as the press director of the Lincoln Road Club I was called upon to attend meetings at the section level with the press director of the Flatbush section, in addition to which the executive members of the clubs in the Flatbush section would occasionally be called upon to attend what was called sectionwide executive meetings.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you tell the committee in a general way what business was conducted at those meetings you were required to attend?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. For instance, at these meetings where the membership directors and financial secretaries met, these executives of the clubs would have to report to the section staff on the status of the membership, the activities which the members were participating in and also the payment of dues, if fund drives were being conducted, what contributions they were making to the fund drive.

In connection with the press, the press director would issue directives to be carried out by the club each week in connection with the Daily Worker. That is, the circulation of it, canvassing in the neighborhood, in apartment buildings, selling it on the streets and getting the newsdealers to supply copies on the newsstands.

Mr. TAVENNER. In the performance of your duties as chairman or head of these two groups, did you receive your immediate directives from the section level of the party?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. That is correct.

Mr. TAVENNER. And the section level coordinated the work of all the clubs within the particular district or section?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. That is correct.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you know how the leadership on the section level received its directives?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes. The section level, the executives on the section level received their directives from the county committee, from the county executives.

Mr. TAVENNER. What was the county designation in your particular area?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. That would have been the county committee of the Brooklyn Communist Party. The county committee of the Brooklyn Communist Party supervised all of the sections within the Borough of Brooklyn.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you know how many sections there were in the Borough of Brooklyn at that time?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. At that time there must have been at least a dozen. They were geographical locations and in New York, especially in Brooklyn, many of the sections of the borough were given particular names, designating geographical locations and these names were also applied to the sections of the party as a means of identifying them.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you acquire a fairly accurate idea of the number of Communist Party members within the Flatbush section to which you belonged?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Well, it was considered an extremely large section; so large in fact that they felt that it should be broken down into three smaller sections. When I was a member of the Flatbush Club that membership comprised anywhere from 300 to 350. There was another large Parkside Club which was in existence at the same time. That also had a very large membership. So I would judge from that that there were something like 600 members in that particular section.

There might be 1 guide to computing figures because in 1947 the organizer—in March 1947—the organizer of the Flatbush section at that time said they had succeeded in breaking down the Flatbush section into 22 small clubs with a membership of about 25 each. That might give you an idea of what the membership would be.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you tell the committee, please, the names of the persons with whom you sat in section meetings of the Communist Party—that is, your own section, the Flatbush section?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. There was Lester Niemark, who was press director of the Joe Stember Club. Lucy Parsons, who was an executive member of one of the clubs in the Flatbush section, who attended meetings of the executive members of the club on a section level.

Jack Peck, who was press director of the Prospect Park Club.

Max Rothstein, press director of the Theodore Dreiser Club.

Susan Schneiderman. She was a member of the branch which covered the Ocean Avenue area and at one of the meetings at which I met her she stated—this was in 1946—she stated that she worked for the union of which the employees of Bloomingdale's Department Store were members.

Annette Silberman, 122 Fenimore Street. She supervised the registration of the members of the Lincoln Road Club into the party for 1947. A class in the fundamentals of Marxism was held in her home.

She stated at one time that she was going to transfer from her present club to the club which was still in existence then as the Parkside Club.

Sol Siegel, who was on the executive committee of the Flatbush section. He was the educational director and I was informed that he was transferred to the waterfront unit.

Joe Simon was a member of the Joe Stember Club and an organizer of one of the subsections of the Flatbush section. He was also a member of the section review commission.

Sidney Wang, 385 Ocean Avenue, was one of the suborganizers in the Flatbush section which included the Prospect Park, Ocean Avenue, Lincoln Road, Woodruff, and Parkside Club.

Abe Weissman. He was introduced as the new educational director of the Flatbush section at one of the meetings I attended.

Mr. TAVENNER. To what group or club of the Communist Party were you assigned at the end of your one-year service with the Lincoln Road Club?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. I was then transferred to the Jay-Smith Club which was in the Boro Hall section of the Brooklyn Communist Party.

Mr. TAVENNER. Were you at that time transferred entirely outside of the Flatbush section?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. That is right, I went to an entirely different section.

Mr. TAVENNER. What was the purpose of that transfer?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. My address as it was known to the Flatbush section was outside the area of the Flatbush section and as it was the policy of the party at that time for the members to be active in the areas in which they lived, I was therefore transferred to the area in which they believed me to be living.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you describe the geographical area of that section, the Boro Hall section?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. The Boro Hall section is in what is commonly referred to as the downtown area of Brooklyn. It included the shopping area, it included an area that was considered a Puerto Rican concentration, a Negro concentration, it included 2 of the housing projects, the Fort Greene housing project and the Gowanus housing project and it also included part of the waterfront.

Mr. TAVENNER. Have you any means of comparison of the membership of that section, the Boro Hall section, with that of the Flatbush section?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Do you mean in numbers?

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. No. It would have been a large section because it covered a large area and there were a number of clubs in it, at least 10 clubs, I would say, at one time. But I do not think I can give you any numerical computation of the membership.

Mr. TAVENNER. Were you able to judge fairly accurately the membership of the Jay-Smith Club to which you were assigned?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes. The Jay-Smith Club had on its rolls usually at one time at least 50 members. Of course during the course of time many of the members were transferred into the club and transferred out but 50 was a fairly constant number.

Mr. TAVENNER. How long did you remain a member of the Jay-Smith Club?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. I remained a member of the Jay-Smith Club until I was expelled in November of 1951.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you hold any positions while a member of the Jay-Smith Club?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes. I was its financial secretary. About 2 months after I had been in the club I became its financial secretary. There were occasions when I acted as organizer and also as its membership director.

Mr. TAVENNER. I would like you at this point to relate certain overall aspects of your experience in the Communist Party which may cover the period of your membership in all of the clubs you have mentioned.

You have told us something of the organizational work of the Communist Party beginning with the meeting of December 5, 1945. Having joined these other clubs, will you bring that subject up to date?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. When I was in the Jay-Smith Club the organization there was similar to that in the Flatbush section. The clubs were supposed to be operating on a group system and in November of 1947 the Jay-Smith Club was directed to institute a group system but wasn't too successful at that time in this particular venture.

Mr. TAVENNER. What do you mean by group system?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. That is, the club had to be broken up into groups so that on alternate Tuesdays, for instance—Tuesdays being the accepted day for holding membership meetings—group meetings could be held which would be held in the homes of the comrades. These were small meetings. Then on other Tuesdays the general membership meeting would be held at which the entire club membership was to be present.

It was in June of 1948 that the directive to break up once again into a group system was repeated and this time the explanation was given that it was to be a precaution against the eventuality of the party being driven underground should the Mundt bill be passed.

In the Jay-Smith Club at this particular time a group of the comrades was actually taken out to form another unit which was supposed to do some Italian concentration work but not being very successful at it they were returned to the rolls of the Jay-Smith Club just a few months later. However, the Jay-Smith Club did finally become functioning on a group system in the fall of 1948.

We were instructed that these groups were to comprise only five members to a group. Then in 1949—in fact it was on June 22—at a meeting of membership directors and financial secretaries held at section headquarters, that Margery de Leon, membership director of the Boro Hall section, reported that although several months ago the order had gone out to the clubs to break down their membership into small groups for reasons of security and also for mobility, this has not met with any great success in Brooklyn and that only the clubs in Manhattan were operating on a fairly successful and efficient group system basis. She instructed the clubs to review their group systems so that the utmost activity could be obtained from each member.

She announced that it was the party's intention for security reasons to eventually organize the membership on the basis of only 10 members to a club, each of these clubs to be divided into groups of 5 members. But in the meantime it was imperative for each club to get its group system working properly with five members to a group.

Now, each group was to have a group captain assigned to it and the responsibility of these group captains was to give leadership to

the group, see that activities—party activities—were carried out, that dues payments were kept up to date and also that the proper political guidance was given to the group.

In other words, a group captain's job was to be similar to that of the organizer of a club except that the group captain's responsibility was limited to just a few members.

Now at this particular meeting Bob Ehrlich, the organizational secretary of the Boro Hall section, stressed the importance of carrying out these directives promptly for security reasons. He stated that in the Boro Hall section several members had recently been questioned by FBI men and he said this questioning had been done in only isolated instances and there might be no cause for alarm but he did not want to minimize the necessity for caution on the part of the comrades and he instructed that they do no talking whatsoever to any investigator and that the club members be advised to be on their guard.

Also at this meeting Caryll Lasky, financial secretary of the Boro Hall section, instructed that the financial secretary of the branches keep no records but make sure that the group captains knew the dues status of the members in their groups.

Then on August 24, 1949 at a meeting of membership directors and financial secretaries, held in the home of Caryll Lasky, financial secretary of the section, Bea Sacks, the section organizer, discussed with me as one of the active members and executives of the Jay-Smith club the necessity of splitting the membership in two units.

Inasmuch as the club had approximately 50 members it was considered too large a membership to handle to properly activize the membership in party activities. Under the new arrangement one group was to be predominantly Negro; the other group was to be predominantly white. And in the Negro group, she instructed that the Negro comrades would have to be placed on the executive committee and trained to give leadership to the other comrades so that as Communists they would all be able to go out into a neighborhood and raise the question of struggle around particular issues that would draw the Negro people into the party.

I was instructed to arrange the division of the Jay-Smith club and make recommendations as to the comrades who would form the executive committees of these clubs but just about this time Caryll Lasky, financial secretary of the section went on vacation and I was assigned to assume the duties of section financial secretary while she was away.

At that time I was instructed in the method of transferring the money that was collected from the branches to the county which followed the same procedure which I, as the financial secretary of a branch, used when I paid the money from the branch to the section.

I, of course, had to break down the payment of dues and contributions to the fund drives on an individual basis but at the section level this was done on a cumulative basis—that is, a total for each club in the amount of dues payments and the amount of contributions to the fund drive—would be reported to the section.

**Mr. TAVENNER.** To whom did you remit those funds?

**Mrs. BLAUVELT.** While I was acting as the financial secretary of the Boro Hall section I remitted these funds to Bea Sacks, the section organizer.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you know to whom she remitted the funds?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. They were to go into the hands of Sidney Brooks, the county treasurer of the Brooklyn Party.

Mr. TAVENNER. Can you follow the funds any further than that?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. No, I can't except that from the county they were to be transferred to the State. It was the usual process. The channel was from the branch to the section, from the section to the county and from the county to the State, and from the State into the national committee.

Mr. MOULDER. You have mentioned security reasons several times for dividing into smaller clubs and organizations. When you use that word do you mean secrecy to avoid detection so it would not be known what was going on?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. That is security for the Communist Party so it would not be detected.

Mr. MOULDER. Do you recall any funds being solicited from your leaders for purposes other than immediate Communist Party activities?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Funds were solicited for the annual fund drives. There usually were some emergency fund drives that arose and there would be instances when party members were requested to make contributions. Do you wish to go into that later?

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. At the end of 1949 the section directives to split the Jay-Smith club into two groups were finally accomplished and one group was known as Jay-Smith club No. 1 and the other group was known as Jay-Smith club No. 2 and in my particular group one of the members by the name of Eileen Wilson was made the organizer although she was released from this activity in the middle of March 1950 because she was moving to California.

Caryll Lasky, whom I have mentioned, stated that she was assigned to act temporarily as the organizer of the club.

Mr. TAVENNER. Which group was that?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Jay-Smith Club No. 1.

And she directed that this club was to conduct its concentration activities in the Gowanus housing project which was considered an important concentration.

Mr. TAVENNER. What did that mean, to concentrate effort on that housing project?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. That meant that the club's activities in conducting party directives were to be carried out in the Gowanus housing project.

For instance, in connection with activities on the press. We were to canvass in the Gowanus housing project with the Daily Worker and Sunday Worker. If any leaflet distributions were to be made, we were to concentrate in the Gowanus housing project with that distribution.

Now, also within the Boro Hall section there was a youth group and it was on May 24, 1950, at a meeting of membership directors and financial secretaries that Lenore Silberman who was then section membership director informed me that six members of the youth group had been assigned to Jay-Smith Club 1. They were: Don, whose last name was unknown to me, captain of the group, Laura Fields, Adele Hardison, Eleanor Switke, Gloria Jackson, Al Henderson.

The captain of the youth group was to attend 1 club executive committee meeting a month, and the entire youth group was to attend 1 club meeting a month so that both the adult and youth groups would know how each group was functioning. The youth group was to conduct its own activities and work in the name of the Labor Youth League and was to canvass with its own paper called the Challenge. However, this actual transfer into the Jay-Smith Club No. 1 did not take place inasmuch as this youth group was reassigned to work with the youth group in the Fort Greene housing project.

This was typical of the organization that was taking place at that time and it was finally at the latter part of August in 1950, in fact it was on August 22, 1950, at an executive committee meeting of the Jay-Smith Club No. 1 that Al Neptune, the educational director of the Boro Hall section, spoke of party security and the need for reorganization in order for the party to function effectively in case it was made illegal through the passage of the Mundt-Nixon bill and the McCarran bill, and at another meeting a couple of weeks later in the home of Irving Feuer, who was acting as organizer of the club, the directive was announced that the clubs were not to hold any large meetings but only small group meetings and that the section itself was undergoing a reorganization whereby the clubs were to be grouped by areas under the supervision of a coordinator from the section. It was on October 9, 1950, at the home of Charles Marshall, one of the members of the section staff, that Francis Scoville, section organizer, said that the section had decided to have a section staff made up of section committeemen and assigned 3 members to each committeeman to act as club co-ordinators.

That was the organization that took place in the general area of August through the fall of 1950 and which was the type of organization that was in existence at the time that I was expelled from the party.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you not believe that the necessity of breaking up the larger groups into smaller groups for security reasons would discourage persons from maintaining their membership in the Communist Party?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. To a certain degree it would have. They may have been very conscious that the party was more or less an underground organization and that they could be fearful of detection, and it was during this period of time that many of the members did not wish to reregister in the party. It seemed that they were rather afraid of the consequences of being detected.

Mr. TAVENNER. Wouldn't it also follow that it would be more difficult under those circumstances to recruit new members into the Communist Party?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Well, at this particular period it was because we had had the indictment of the party's 12 leaders and there were the Mundt bills which were receiving publicity and the McCarran Act which was receiving publicity and it was creating an element of fear within many of the party members themselves and the party was at this time losing many of its members through unsuccessful reregistration of them. That is, they were losing them from open membership or what I should say actual membership within the party itself.

I don't say they lost them in sympathy. Many of them still regarded themselves as good Communists and there was no difference ideologically between what they were thinking and what the party was thinking. It was just that for their own personal fears that they did not wish to be associated with the party.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did it reflect itself in contributions to the party?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. To a certain extent, yes, I would say so. Contributions to the party of course were always made through fund drives and as this period progressed it became more and more difficult to get money from the comrades. Actually there were so many fund drives being conducted that were being conducted for the sake of helping the indicted 12 for purpose of continuing the trial, meeting expenses, and these became so frequent that the party members really were being bled for money.

Mr. TAVENNER. To what extent was the membership of the clubs of which you were a member used in the recruiting of Communist Party members? The committee would like to know what emphasis the Communist Party put on recruiting.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. There was continual emphasis on recruiting. As a matter fact, recruiting was considered as one of the ways of building the party, and although it was constantly placed before the party members that they were to recruit people into the party, actually recruiting drives were held for the very specific purpose at certain periods of time to draw people into the party. Recruiting drives were held annually, as a matter of fact, usually at the beginning of the year.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you relate in detail the emphasis the Communist Party put upon recruiting in the various clubs of which you were a member?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Well, for instance when I was a member of the Flatbush Club, the recruiting drive started in March of 1945 and the Communist Political Association of New York State issued a letter which announced that a 2-month recruiting drive for 5,000 new members was to be conducted during April and May; and in connection with this particular drive the members of the Flatbush Club were instructed to give Abe Feingold the names of anyone they wanted contacted, and readers of the Daily Worker who were not members of the Communist Political Association were to be contacted for the purpose of recruiting them.

Then in 1946 in connection with the recruiting drive that was being conducted at that time the national committee of the Communist Party designated Brooklyn as one of the pace setters in this particular drive and the Kings County committee of the Brooklyn party held a press conference, at the Livingston, on April 29, 1946, to report to the membership and to the national committee.

Present were John Williamson, Steve Nelson, Bill Norman, Betty Gannett who had been appointed by the national board to receive this report. Carl Vedro, executive secretary of the Brooklyn party, reported that the Brooklyn party had a quota of 2,740 new members to fill but only 800 had been recruited up to this particular time.

John Williamson, national secretary of the Communist Party at that time, called for more forceful leadership on the part of the Communists in the trade unions, saying that recruiting into the party

must be done from the unions and the comrades must concentrate in basic industries, on the waterfront, and in the shipyards, from which labor could be recruited.

Five areas in Brooklyn had been designated as concentration points and they were Greenpoint, Williamsburg, Ridgewood, Bay Ridge, and Sheepshead Bay because it was in these areas where the workers in the basic industries could be found.

He said he left out the Bedford-Stuyvesant section, considered one of the Negro concentrations, because the Negroes were friendly to the Communists and it was therefore not difficult to recruit them.

On the question of just who should be asked to join the party, Williamson said the comrades placed too much emphasis on selectivity, and he said the party would never grow if only those individuals versed in Marxism were allowed to join; and he stated there were many who were qualified for membership because they were aware of the issues of the day and needed only to become members of the party to be activated in the struggles of labor and it was for the purpose of educating such people to think and act as Marxists that the party had schools and courses for training.

He said recruiting should be done among those who voted for Peter V. Cacchione and that the issues such as the fight for OPA, Free Spain, and fight for peace should be used for approaching the people.

Then in the fall of 1946 there was a meeting in the home of Bill Cahn on September 16, 1946, and there was some discussion regarding the press drive and party building campaign being conducted then, and activity was to be set into motion by having each member prepare a list of possible recruits and readers of the Daily Worker to be contacted every week until they took a sub to the Sunday or Daily Worker or were drawn into the party and it was felt that the least that could be accomplished would be to draw the contacts into the consumers council or the Civil Rights Congress.

These were mass organizations through which the party also hoped to gain potential recruits.

Then at an executive committee meeting of the Lincoln Road Club in the home of Bill Cahn November 8, 1946, both he and Gil Pelham expressed the opinion that widespread unemployment was imminent and in the resulting period of dissatisfaction among the people, that would be the time when the Communist Party would be able to swell its ranks.

Now on January 11, 1947, the Brooklyn Communist Party held a meeting to report on the press drive and Eugene Dennis spoke at this meeting and among his remarks was the statement that the party had a registered membership of 62,000, but had set itself a goal of 100,000 members to be achieved in the recruiting drive which was soon to be opening up.

This recruiting drive that Dennis spoke of officially began on March 1, 1947, and in connection therewith the Flatbush section held a sectionwide executive conference on March 3, 1947, at which Alan Max of the Daily Worker staff spoke, and among some of the remarks he made, in addition to speaking about the drive, was on the need of a third party, saying that it must be based on a broad coalition around the issues of common interest to all, that the Communists must give impetus to such a movement to fight against monopoly and reaction,

and the people must be shown that it was socialism which would make America free.

Therefore the Communist Party must be built and the present recruiting drive to raise the membership to 100,000 was being conducted.

The Flatbush section's quota in this particular drive was 200 new members.

September 30, 1947 had been set as the date by which the goal of 100,000 members was to be achieved.

Mr. MOULDER. Do you know whether that goal of 100,000 members was achieved?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. No, sir; that was not achieved.

Mr. MOULDER. Do you know what the total membership was at that time?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. It was Dennis' statement that it was 62,000 at that time. Then also in connection with this particular recruiting drive, an educational was conducted on March 11, 1947, at a meeting—

Mr. TAVENNER. Are you telling us about what was required of the membership of these groups; what part they should play in helping to recruit members?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. That is correct. These are discussions, directives, and orders which were being received at these particular times on these particular questions.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was it almost a constant thing over a long period of time?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. It was almost a constant thing, yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. Proceed.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. At this particular meeting of the Lincoln Road Club on March 11, 1947, Harold Heyman conducted an educational on Henry Winston's report, Toward a Party of 100,000.

This report pointed out that the emergency national convention of July 1945 placed before the party as its main task that of strengthening the working-class base of the party, first of all, in the key industries. To do this, industries, and the key plants within those industries, and key industrial towns and cities were selected for concentration, and forces and funds were allocated for that work.

Now as a result of this concentration policy, the industrial workers recruited into the party rose from 38 percent to 43 percent in 1946, and the basic industrial workers rose from 19 percent to 22 percent.

Mr. WILLIS. You are speaking over what area?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. This is 1947 and this constitutes a report on the part of Henry Winston on the results of what the party had been doing in the past period.

Mr. WILLIS. Over what area?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. This is general. It is Henry Winston's report.

Mrs. WILLIS. Is this in New York?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. He is speaking on a broad general area not confined to the New York area. This was considered an advance but changing the industrial composition of the party so that the base of the party would be the workers in the shops and industries was still the main task.

And to help fulfill this task, organizers had been sent to the main concentration sections and coordinated leadership was provided in a number of industries. It was hoped that the party in this present

recruiting drive of 1947 would secure new members from the key shops, industries, and working class communities.

Now in October of 1947 when I was in the Jay-Smith Club, I attended a meeting of membership directors and financial secretaries at which Margery de Leon, the section membership director, discussed the task of registering membership into the party for 1948. She spoke on the significance of building the party to stem on the onward tide of fascism, as she called it that was sweeping the country.

In view of the necessity of building the party to a maximum, it had been decided to re-register every comrade in the section but at the same time the comrade had to be impressed with the fact that they had to make a very determined effort to become more active in party activities.

One of the comrades from the teachers' unit said she felt one of the teachers in her branch should be dropped because he never attended meetings, but she heard him speak at conventions and conferences, and one day also heard him in school presenting a study of the Soviet Union to the pupils of his history class and she knew he was a good Communist.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you have any further information as to the individual referred to, or the school involved?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. No, sir. I thought that was a very interesting point, but at this time I was very new in the section and I was not too familiar with most of the members and therefore the identity of this particular comrade was never revealed to me, but I thought it was an interesting point, nevertheless.

Now, in 1948 the yearly recruiting drive began on March 1st. This one was to last until April 15. In the Jay-Smith Club we were given a quota of 25 new recruits and it was hoped that this number could be recruited from the contacts made from Sunday morning canvassing with the Sunday Worker and from subscribers who had been obtained in the current press drive.

Mr. MOULDER. Did you know the person who made the statement about having heard this teacher?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. No, sir. As I explained, I was new in the section at that time and not too familiar with some of the members. Therefore, I did not know the person who was speaking at the time.

In 1949 at an executive committee meeting of the Jay-Smith Club held on March 7 in the home of Charles Marshall, it was announced that the Communist Party was launching its annual recruiting drive, its aim this year to get as many industrial workers in the party as possible in order to carry out its plans to reorganize on an industrial basis. Harry Shapiro, one of the members of the club, stated that although the comrades would be asked to recruit industrial workers, it had been pointed out at the party's industrial conference which he had attended on March 5, that the people in the communities must also be recruited because a great deal of excellent party work was done by the housewives who made up the communities.

In this recruiting drive the party had set a quota of 5,000 new industrial members of which the Brooklyn party was to recruit 700. In the Jay-Smith Club we were given a quota of 5 new Negro industrial recruits.

I think probably the next important factor in recruiting came to my attention in 1950 at the executive committee meeting of the Jay-Smith Clubs Nos. 1 and 2 on February 14, 1950, in the home of Charles

Marshall. Bea Sacks, the section organizer of the Boro Hall section, stressed the importance of getting every comrade registered into the party for 1950, saying that out of 6,000 party members in Brooklyn, 1,000 were being lost through non-registration and that the year before, 1,000 members had also been lost. I think that would cover the salient points regarding the need for building the party through new recruits and also re-registering the members of the party.

Mr. TAVENNER. Were application forms used in the various drives for membership?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes. In most instances a printed form application was used.

Mr. TAVENNER. I hand you what appears to be such a form and on the back of it there is noted: "Unite and Organize for Peace, Security, Democracy and Social Progress." Can you identify that as the type of application form used?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes. This particular application was the one that was used in 1948. This included not only an application for membership in the Communist Party but also application for a subscription to the Worker.

Mr. TAVENNER. I desire to offer the document in evidence and ask that it be marked "Blauvelt Exhibit No. 20-A" for identification purposes only, and to be made a part of the committee files.

Mr. WILLIS. It is so ordered.

Mr. TAVENNER. I present in connection with your testimony on recruitment a sheaf of throwaways and also an article on the letterhead of the Communist Party, U. S. A., over the signature of William Z. Foster on the subject of recruiting. Will you examine these, please, and state whether they were used in the course of recruiting campaigns?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes. Each one of these was. This particular one, which is dated May 5, 1944, was issued by the Flatbush Club, and it mentions the names and the addresses of some of the comrades where meetings could be held for the purpose of probably clinching potential recruits into the party.

This one is on a letter, on the letterhead of the Communist Political Association of New York State over the signature of Gilbert Green, president of the CPA of New York State at that time, stating that 5,000 new members were to be recruited during the drive of April and May 1945.

This one is entitled the "Krumbein Party Building Drive" in connection with the recruiting drive, to be held from March 1 to September 30 in 1947.

This one is a letter to all party members over the signature of William Z. Foster, in connection with the 1946 campaign.

Mr. TAVENNER. I ask that the documents above referred to be marked "Blauvelt Exhibit No. 20-B" for identification purposes only, and be made a part of the committee files.

Mr. MOULDER. It is so ordered.

Mr. TAVENNER. You have described numerous activities of the membership of these various groups. It is difficult to understand how the membership could have had time for any other activities, but as you were the chairman of the press drive and also chairman of the fund drive, I would like to ask you about those two matters.

First, will you tell us what your duties were as chairman of the press drive?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. I woud like to make a correction. I was not chairman of the press drive. I was press director of the Lincoln Road Club. There is a bit of a difference.

As the press director it was my duty to attend these meetings at the section level so that I could receive directives from the section regarding the circulation of the Daily Worker and the Sunday Worker.

Now, activities with the paper usually consisted of canvassing to a very high degree or as high a degree as could possibly be maintained and certain areas would be designated as canvassing areas and comrades would be given assignments to canvass with the paper, usually on Sunday morning. It was that type of work which the press director was primarily concerned with.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was this type of work a constant activity?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes, sir; it was. It was a constant activity. However, there were at times very concerted efforts made to increase the circulation of the press and to secure subscriptions to either the Daily Worker or the Sunday Worker and these concerted efforts took the form of press drives. They were usually conducted on an annual basis.

Mr. TAVENNER. In your judgment, are there any particular features of that activity which you should call to the attention of the committee?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. During all the time I was in the party, the press, of course, was considered one of the major activities and in each club it did constitute a very important part of the work of the club. If you wish me to go into this, I can do so.

Mr. MOULDER. Did you ask a question?

Mr. TAVENNER. It is a question of how much detail we desire to go into in connection with the press activities of the club.

Did the activity of the press phase of this subject lead to the use of Communist Party periodicals for any special objectives the Communist Party had in mind?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. The Communist Party felt that the Daily Worker was the medium through which the people could be reached.

It would present party policy to them. It was spokesman for the party and as a matter of fact this was brought out at a meeting of the Flatbush Club of the Communist Political Association I attended July 25, 1944, at which Bill Lawrence, the secretary of the State Communist Political Association spoke. He claimed that the Daily Worker was the spokesman for the party and therefore must be read by the party people and it was considered the medium through which the people were to be reached, and it was at this time that he made the statement that Earl Browder was to assume the editorship of the paper following Labor Day of that year. We had a press drive which was starting at that time and in this particular press drive, we were supposed to have 22,000 subscriptions to the paper by January 7 of 1945.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was an effort made to sell the Daily Worker among mass organizations irrespective of membership in the Communist Party for the purpose of carrying some Communist Party line to those people?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Well, for instance in the press drives, contact had to be made with certain groups of people and in the press drive of 1946, this is at the time that I was press director of the Lincoln Road Club, people were to be canvassed for subscriptions and it was to be done on the basis of contacting American Labor Party voters and members of the Civil Rights Congress which had a chapter in the Flatbush section. Of course, the members of the American Labor Party were open on record in the registered voters directory. However, it wasn't known whether or not the membership of the Flatbush chapter of the Civil Rights Congress was an open list and therefore any of the comrades who were members of the Flatbush chapter of the Civil Rights Congress were to be contacted so that contact would be made with the members of the Civil Rights Congress in connection with the press drive.

If I may point out one thing which I always considered fairly important, it was in connection with a conference that was held in October of 1947. If you would like me to give you some of the details in connection with that, I think you might find it interesting.

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes, if you will, please.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. In October of 1947—and if you go into this detail I guess I might as well say it was at a meeting of the Jay-Smith Club held on October 6, 1947, that Harry Shapiro, one of the members of the club, announced that the Communist Party was holding a 2-day conference at Webster Hall on October 18 to 19, and delegates from the eastern seaboard States were to attend and the subject to be discussed was the building of the party press to combat the wave of anti-communism that was rising in the country. Now only three comrades from a section were to attend this conference and in the Boro Hall section the delegates were to be Abe Osheroff, section organizer, Eleanor Schor, organizer of the Jay-Smith Club, and Lola Kehoe of the La Pasionaria Club which was the Puerto Rican Club in the Boro Hall section.

Now there was more or less a report on the conference which was made on October 27, 1947, at a section meeting of the executives of the clubs in the Boro Hall section. The meeting was held to launch the section on the party press building campaign. Bea Sacks of the section staff brought out the need for building the party press to combat propaganda of such papers as the Daily News, Mirror, and the Hearst publications.

Abe Osheroff, organizer of the section, took up the discussion to impress upon the comrades the necessity of overcoming the barriers in canvassing in order to build the press.

Now he maintained that the way things were going in the country the people were being led deeper and deeper into a jungle from which they could not escape and in which they could be controlled politically, psychologically, and finally militarily and in order to prevent a situation taking place in this country similar to that which had arisen in Germany, it was necessary for the Communists to reach the people.

Now he declared that the comrades might not think they had done very much when they spoke to people about controlling prices, et cetera, but that it was through this medium that the people in the community began to think and take action.

He stated that in every case where the people took action on the political, racial, and economic issues affecting their lives, it would be found that such action stemmed from the influence exerted by the Communists, and he maintained that it was this hard core or nucleus of Communists that also gave direction to mass organizations.

For instance, he posed the question that where would the CIO conventions, both State and National, have been had it not been for the Communists who kept the left and center together, and he declared also that in the South it was the Communists who were organizing and giving leadership to the mass organizations such as Southern Conference for Human Welfare.

He further said the most recent action of protest on the part of the actors in Hollywood against the House Un-American Activities Committee was not purely spontaneous, but was the result of Communist influence. He said, "We know these things to be a fact. We don't have to be told."

**Mr. TAVENNER.** This committee has gone to a great deal of effort to prove that that statement made by this Communist Party leader represented the true situation when the fight of the Hollywood 10 occurred before his committee. Many witnesses have been called on the subject. Who made that statement to your club?

**Mrs. BLAUVELT.** Abe Osheroff, the organizer of the Boro Hall section at this particular time.

**Mr. TAVENNER.** Proceed, please.

**Mrs. BLAUVELT.** He concluded that the comrades should not underestimate the work that they did in canvassing with the paper and urged that they be activized to participate in the campaign to build the press. That was in October of 1947. There was one party meeting held on December 15 of 1947, which was a closed meeting of the Brooklyn Communist Party; only the executive members of the branches were present at this meeting, and John Gates spoke at it. I do not know whether or not you would be interested in hearing his remarks made at that meeting.

**Mr. TAVENNER.** Yes, we would.

**Mrs. BLAUVELT.** He spoke first of himself, that in 1932-33 he had been a member of the Young Communist League in Ohio and had won a national award for being champion sub-getter and he was now editor of the Daily Worker. He spoke about the information bureau which had been formed by 9 Communist parties of Europe because they realized they were making mistakes by conducting their affairs independently and that they would benefit by having an organization to guide them.

He further stated that it was the decision of the American Communists not to affiliate with this information bureau, but that these Communist parties of Europe knew the position which the American Communists were in and that it was for the understandable reason that the Communist Party in America was trying to make the party recognized as a legal one.

He then spoke about the formation of a third party and pointed out that progress was being made by the American Labor Party in New York State. He maintained that Truman and his administration would never receive the support of the American Labor Party and the Progressive forces but that it would be Wallace who would get Progressive backing. He pointed out the movement taking place in Chicago where the Communists and the Progressives were forming an independent party and would attempt to get it on the ballot in Illinois for the purpose of sponsoring Wallace's presidential candidacy in 1948.

He pointed out work being done in California by the Progressives in order to form a third party which he said he was sure would back Wallace. He brought out the necessity of educating the people to the issues involved in the present political situation and urged the comrades to get the Daily Worker to the people as the means of educating them.

There was another press and party building conference held on March 20, 1948, at which the executive members of the branches of the Brooklyn party were also present and Max Weiss, the foreign affairs director of the national committee of the Communist Party was principal speaker. He pointed out that the Communists had three big tasks to tackle, namely, bringing the issues of universal military training before the people and securing its defeat, building a third party movement around Wallace, and building the Communist Party and its press.

There was a meeting held at the Brooklyn Academy of Music on January 20, 1949. This was a Lenin memorial meeting. Joe Clark, the city editor of the Daily Worker, spoke on the merits of this paper. He pointed out that the capitalist press was full of untruths whereas the Daily Worker gave only factual information, and as an example of how the capitalist press operated, he declared that it always paid homage to Chiang Kai-shek but it could now be seen that this was done in the interests of the imperialists, whereas the Daily Worker had always rooted for Mao Tse-tung, Chinese leader of China who was leading the Chinese people to victory.

Another instance of how the capitalist press operated, he declared, was seen in their apparent scoop that the Soviet Union was now making overtures for peace, whereas the Daily Worker had always known the Soviet Union worked for peace.

He, of course, at this time urged the comrades to build the circulation of the Daily Worker and the press.

Mr. MOULDER. We will stand in recess for 5 minutes.

(Brief recess.)

Mr. MOULDER. Proceed, Mr. Tavenner.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you recall whether or not the Daily Worker had any problem about being able to raise sufficient funds to continue its work on the same basis that it had been prior to 1950?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. It was having difficulty, as I recall, and that need was stressed in some of the fund drives held around that period when we were told to meet quotas to the fund drive as promptly as possible because it was not only needed for the party but for the Daily Worker. For instance, there were many expenses that had to be met and money was running low.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you know whether there was a period when the size of the paper was reduced from 12 to 8 pages?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes, that took place in 1951. In fact, there was an editorial in the issue of June 25, 1951, which announced that as of July 1 the Daily Worker would be reduced from 12 to 8 pages and the price raised from 5 cents to 10 cents. That was because of financial difficulties. They had to cut down. Apparently the paper situation was a difficult one to handle, costs had gone up and they were operating very much in the red, I understood, at that time.

Mr. TAVENNER. Since we have mentioned the matter of raising funds, we would like to know just what part of the activities of the club was devoted to the matter of raising funds and the purpose for which funds were raised. Will you give us your information on that, please?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes. Fund drives were held on an annual basis. They usually started some time in the beginning or spring of the year and they were held for the purpose of raising money for the party, also for the Daily Worker.

Now I have quite a bit of detail on fund drives and probably one of interest—it was to me—in 1944 because it was actually the first fund drive I had come in contact with, and the mechanics of it were explained at a party meeting and if you would like to have that I will give it.

Mr. TAVENNER. I think you should give us a rather detailed statement of the work done by the Communist Party in fund drives.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. In connection with the first fund drive in which I actually did participate, there was a meeting held on June 13, 1944, at the Flatbush Club of the Communist Political Association, at which Ruth Wang, executive secretary, spoke about the fund drive which was being launched by the party and which was to end on August 1.

For the benefit of new members who had never participated in the fund drive, she explained that it was for the purpose of building the Daily Worker which was in particular need of funds since its change to a tabloid.

In this fund drive the Flatbush Club's quota had been set at \$3,000 and she further explained that half of that amount would go to the Daily Worker, the other half being divided between the county office and the Flatbush Club, which would give the club \$750.

She also explained that it was necessary for the county office to receive part of the money raised in the drive because it took \$10,000 a year to maintain it. She said there were 4 people in the county office and mentioned the names of Joe Roberts and Tony Morton, the latter receiving \$55 a week as a salary. She said it was also necessary to contribute to Peter V. Cacchione because his salary as a councilman was not large enough to take care of the many expenses arising out of his activities as leader of the Brooklyn Communists.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was that money to be used by Cacchione in his political campaign?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. That is correct. Then in 1945 in connection with the fund drive conducted in the spring of that year which actually started officially on March 1 and was to end on June 1, Peter V. Cacchione spoke at a meeting of the Flatbush Club on March 6, 1945, and explained that this particular fund drive was being so conducted that

the clubs would receive half the quotas set for them, the other half going to the county.

He told the comrades their first duty was to the Communist Political Association—the name of the organization at that time—and that their contributions to the fund drive should be larger than donations they made to New Masses or to the Jefferson School of Social Sciences or to Russian War Relief, and he stated that although these 3 organizations received their support from the Communists, and declared there would be no Jefferson School if it were not for the Communists, he was quite emphatic about the Communist Political Association, itself, receiving first consideration where money was concerned.

Now, at this same time Ruth Wang, chairman of the fund drive, announced that the club's quota was \$3,000 and she was confident that the amount would be raised. It would be used in the campaign to reelect Cacchione to the city council.

In 1946 the annual fund drive was held. That followed the same procedure but there was one item which impressed me and it was a statement that was made by Betty Medinz, chairman of the Parkside Club, at a meeting held on April 9, 1946, when in discussing the fund drive she pointed out the rise of the Communist Party in Alabama and stated that the party in the South needed financial support.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you have further information about the sending of Communist Party funds from New York to areas in the South for Communist Party purposes?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. No, sir; I do not. This was the one statement that I did hear and at the time I thought that it was rather significant.

In connection with this particular fund drive there was a party building bulletin issued to the club executives from the organizing department of the Flatbush section.

Mr. TAVENNER. I have a throwaway apparently which relates to the fund drive you are mentioning. Can you identify it?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes. This is the one that I referred to. This lists the clubs in the Flatbush section. The Albemarle Club, Professional Club, Joe Stember Club, Farragut Club, Service Club, Freedom Road, Parkside, Prospect Park, Dreiser, Glenwood.

I seem to recall I made a statement previously that I was not aware of a professional club being in existence in the section at that time, but I see from this there must have been one. It gives the quota of each club and the amount that they have turned in.

Mr. TAVENNER. What is the total of the quota for the clubs of the Flatbush section?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. It looks to me here as though it were \$10,000.

Mr. TAVENNER. It shows that a number of those clubs had oversubscribed their quota at the time this throwaway was issued.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. That is right.

Mr. MOULDER. Did you call that a throwaway?

Mr. TAVENNER. It is a leaflet. Is that the term commonly used in the Communist Party to indicate this type of publication?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Well, "throwaway" usually was the term designated for leaflets which would be distributed usually in door-to-door canvassing or street distribution. This more properly I guess would be called just a memorandum issued to the club executives.

**Mr. TAVENNER.** Mr. Chairman, I desire to offer the document in evidence, and ask that it be marked "Blauvelt Exhibit No. 21" and that it be incorporated in the transcript of the record.

**Mr. MOULDER.** It is so ordered.

(The exhibit referred to is as follows:)

BLAUVELT EXHIBIT No. 21

*Fund drive*

Club	Quota	Amount in	Percent	Amount to go
Albemarle.....	\$1,000.00	\$1,336.40	135	(1)
Professional.....	400.00	565.50	141	(1)
Joe Stember.....	600.00	605.50	109	(1)
Farragut.....	2,000.00	2,146.05	107	(1)
Service.....	325.00	303.75	90	\$21.25
Freedom Road.....	325.00	284.03	87	41.00
Parkside.....	1,350.00	1,097.15	81	252.85
Prospect Park.....	1,800.00	1,349.10	74	450.90
Dreiser.....	1,650.00	948.65	57	701.35
Glenwood.....	669.25	669.25	-----	-----
Total.....	10,000.00	9,305.38	93	-----

<sup>1</sup> Overfulfilled.

Flatbush Section leads the State in the most money turned in. See the standing in June 24 Worker. This is no small achievement. We can congratulate ourselves for a job well done. Our Section quota of 10,000 dollars however is not yet reached. The goal is in sight. How about it; Dreiser, Prospect Park, and Parkside. July 4 is just around the corner and the Daily needs the Money.

RECRUITING

Farragut is well ahead of all other clubs with 22 recruits out of 25 pledged. They guarantee the other three by July 1st. Good work Farragut.

Two more for Joe Stember making a total of 18. They pledged TWO more by July 1st.

Can we shoot for 100 recruits by July 1st. A total of 2 per club. This is an easy task. Lets all go out and do a job on this.

JUNE CONTROL

As of last Wednesday we have controlled 239 out of 505 members. The following is the standing of clubs:

Farragut.....	76	Serv. ....	10	Prof. ....	1
Albem. ....	25	Park No. 1.....	16	Fr. Rd. ....	0
Pros. Pk. ....	33	Park No. 2.....	39	Dreis. ....	29

This situation has become critical. We must act accordingly. We have only one week to go. June control must be completed. We can do it. Lets all pitch in and get the job over with. We have many pressing things to move forward to.

ORG. DEPT.,  
Flatbush Section,  
Communist Party.

**Mrs. BLAUVELT.** In connection with the fund drive in 1947, this particular drive started on March 14 and it was discussed at a meeting of the Lincoln Road Club held on March 25, 1947, in the home of Elizabeth Feingold. The fund drive had been initiated by the national board of the Communist Party for the purpose of raising money to fight the looming threat of the banning of the Communist Party. The party had been aroused into action because of the declarations being made by Members of Congress and by the Secretary of State

that the Communist Party should be banned, and it intended launching of a campaign using radio and press and distribution of leaflets as a means of combating such threats.

To carry on this campaign the party needed \$225,000 immediately and the clubs had until April 1 to raise the money. I attended just 2 days later a meeting that was held by the Fort Greene section of the Brooklyn Communist Party in the school located in the area of the Fort Greene housing project. It was held for the purpose of protesting against the threatened outlawing of the Communist Party and at this meeting Al Neptune, one of the executive members of the Fort Greene section, said that this section had raised \$1,400 toward this defense fund to be used by the party in fighting the Communist ban.

They were successful in raising this amount of money, at least it was announced that they were successful in raising this amount of money. In fact, I heard it announced that they had raised \$250,000.

Mr. TAVENNER. \$250,000?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes.

Mr. TAVENNER. You say that meeting was held in a school?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes, it was.

Mr. TAVENNER. What school was that?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Public School 67.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you know whether the school authorities knew of the purpose of the meeting and that it was to be used for a Communist Party meeting on that occasion?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. No, I don't, sir. I know that the school buildings were open to meetings as long as admission was not charged. I don't know under what name they might have applied for permission to hold the meeting.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was this a meeting open to the public generally, or was it confined to Communist Party members?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. No, inasmuch as it was in the school building auditorium, it was an open meeting. It wasn't a closed meeting.

Then on August 5 of 1947 at a meeting of the Jay-Smith Club of the Boro Hall section, Eleanor Schor, organizer of the club, announced a fund drive was being undertaken to raise funds to fight the contempt conviction imposed upon Eugene Dennis, general secretary of the Communist Party.

Mr. TAVENNER. That contempt proceeding arose out of his appearance as a witness before this committee.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes, I believe it was.

Now she later announced that this fund drive had a threefold purpose. It was to get funds for educational purposes, to conduct a campaign for the election of Ada B. Jackson of the American Labor Party to the city council and to establish expense funds to fight the sentence imposed on Eugene Dennis for contempt of Congress.

Now, in connection with the drive that was conducted in 1948, I felt that a very significant report was made to the members of the Jay-Smith Club on January 6 of 1948 by George Sande, who was a member of the Plaza Club of the Boro Hall section, also a member of the section executive committee and also the circulation manager of the Daily Worker.

At this meeting he stated that no statement as to the political aspects of the fund drive had been made as yet by the party, but that such a

statement was to appear in the paper within the next few days. Therefore, his remarks were based entirely on his own opinion.

He announced that the party had set itself a goal of \$250,000 to \$275,000 in the fund drive. He pointed out to them the need of this amount in order to enable the party to meet the expenses that would be incurred during the year. He asserted that not since the year of the Second Front was the party faced with the problems and tasks that confronted it this year.

This money was necessary to help the party carry on the fight against anti-communism, to carry on the fight for civil liberties, to fight for the third-party movement.

Also the fund drive would help cut the deficit of the Sunday and Daily Worker.

He said this deficit ran into the hundreds of thousands and the national board of the party had told them it must be reduced by at least \$50,000. He said this would be a hard job because paper had gone up \$6 a ton, resulting in an expenditure of additional thousands of dollars.

He also stated that there were 50 members of the editorial staff, typographers, and pressmen and printers, to be paid most of whom were party members, and paying these workers was going to be difficult because the American Newspaper Guild which, he claimed, was now under control of the right wing, intended to put pressure on the Daily Worker and treat it the same as the New York Times, calling for the same contracts.

He maintained many of the paper's expenses could be met if the circulation could be increased and he urged the comrades to buy the paper and create a demand for it on the newsstands and also to obtain subscriptions.

Then in May of 1948 at a meeting of the Jay-Smith Club held on May 11, it was announced that a special emergency fund drive was being launched by the Communist Party to raise money with which to fight the Mundt bill and in this particular emergency fund drive the club would be given a quota of \$600.

Mr. TAVENNER. What club is that?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Jay-Smith Club.

Later in the year on August 30 of 1948, at an executive committee meeting of the Jay-Smith Club, Charles Marshall, who was then the club organizer, announced that the party was conducting another emergency fund drive to fight the indictment of the party's 12 leaders.

This drive was to terminate on September 15. In this particular drive the club's quota was \$200.

Then in January of 1949 the Communist Party again launched its annual fund drive and it was announced by Abe Osheroff at a meeting of the Brooklyn Communist Party which was a Lenin memorial meeting held on January 20, 1949, that the quota of the Brooklyn Party was \$185,000. Now in this fund drive, the clubs were to retain 10 per cent of the money collected, sections were to retain 10 per cent of the money collected and 1 per cent was to be contributed to the Civil Rights Congress.

Later at a meeting on February 7, 1949, Charles Marshall announced that instructions had been issued that the clubs must complete their quotas by the following week because the party's national committee

was pressed for money and funds were needed to meet expenses of the trial of the party's leaders.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you know the purpose of that contribution of the 1 percent of the \$185,000 to the Civil Rights Congress?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Well, at this particular time the Civil Rights Congress was very active in protesting the indictment of the party's 12 leaders. They had issued petitions and they had issued leaflets and petitions soliciting contributions, they had held a legislative conference and a pilgrimage to Washington in the middle of January, all designed to protest the indictment of the party's 12 leaders.

In connection with this fund drive in 1949, I had to see some of the comrades regarding their contributions and I went to see Murray and Nettie Roman, at 215 Bergen Street. Murray Roman turned in \$55 to the fund drive and said he would get an additional \$45 from the workers in his office, which was also his union, namely, local No. 19 of the United Office and Professional Workers of America. He said that it was difficult to get money for the party's fund drive this year because the union was conducting a simultaneous fund drive. He stated he disagreed with the two fund drives being held at the same time, but that his union had made arrangements with the party whereby the contributions made to the union's fund drive would be divided equally with the party.

At this same time Nettie Roman mentioned that the Bedford-Stuyvesant section had oversubscribed its own quota in the fund drive and she attributed this to the fact that there was a professional group in that section made up of doctors in the Jewish hospital.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you at any subsequent time discover whether or not any union funds were divided with the Communist Party?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. No, sir, I did not. This was a statement made by Murray Roman which came from him at this particular time, but other than that I have no knowledge.

Mr. TAVENNER. Have you facts to substantiate it other than his own statement?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Just his own statement and I have no knowledge of anything else being arranged in that manner. That is, of my own personal knowledge.

In 1949 also in the beginning of August, another fund drive was launched, this time also for the purpose of raising money to help defray the expenses of the trial of the party's 12 leaders, and also to raise money for the party's activities in the coming November elections.

At the same time that this particular fund drive was still in progress, I attended a meeting of membership directors and financial secretaries which was held on October 5, 1949, at which Caryll Lasky discussed a new fund drive which the party had launched for the purpose of raising money for bail in connection with the trial of the party's 12 leaders.

She stated this drive was to be conducted on a loan basis, bonds to be issued for a minimum of \$25, although \$100 bonds were preferred. She explained that if any of the comrades wanted to make a loan but felt they could not use their own names on a bond, they should try to find someone who would be willing to have the bonds written in his name or they could call upon either her or Bea Sacks for use of their names. She declared there was no risk of loss involved in the bond

loan and anyone could get his money back any time and it was a matter of urgency to have the funds available for bail by the time the trial closed.

She said although bail for the 12 was to be furnished in the name of the Civil Rights Congress, comrades were being instructed not to go directly to the Civil Rights Congress with contributions but to make them to the Communist Party.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you have any way of knowing whether those funds actually went to the Civil Rights Congress or whether the Communist Party used part of them for its own purpose?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. No, I do not; not of my own personal knowledge, I cannot say. I know at this particular meeting one of the comrades said he wished to make a contribution of \$100 and at a subsequent meeting held 2 weeks later money was turned in for bail bonds in the name of other comrades, but that is the extent of my knowledge as to the manner in which money was turned in.

On November 16, 1949, at a meeting of the membership directors and financial secretaries of the Boro Hall section, Caryll Lasky, financial secretary, announced that the party was conducting another fund drive this time to defray the expenses of the trial of the party's 12 leaders and election campaigns.

There was an annual fund drive which started in February of 1950 but this was conducted in the same manner as the others. I do not think there is any necessity of going into that one.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Chairman, I believe this is a good place to recess.

Mr. MOULDER. Thank you very much, Mrs. Blauvelt.

The committee will stand in recess until in the morning at 10 o'clock.  
(Whereupon, at 4:30 p. m., the committee was recessed, to reconvene at 10 a. m. Thursday, May 5, 1955.)

(Remainder of this hearing is printed in Part IV of this series.)

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